

At ease on the trapeze



Function, beauty of Spanish design

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Breath of Spring for Fall harvest

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CPC unveils five-year road map at National Congress

Delegates of the Communist Party of China (CPC) gathered in Beijing Monday morning to attend the year's most important political event, which will chart a course for the country's next five years of development.

The 17th National Congress of the CPC is set to elect the Party's 17th Central Committee that will decide CPC's new leadership lineup for the coming few years, and elect a new Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.

The newly-elected members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee will meet with the

press next Tuesday.

It will also approve a draft amendment to the Party Constitution to include the Scientific Outlook on Development (SOD) and its new achievements in other aspects of the Party's theoretical innovations and its progress in practice.

SOD, initiated by the 16th CPC Central Committee in 2003, is part of the theories of socialism with Chinese characteristics that stands alongside Deng Xiaoping Theory and the important thought of Three Represents, Hu Jintao said in a report delivered on behalf of the 16th CPC Central Committee.

Hu underlined endeavors by

the past three generations of central collective leadership in founding and prospering the New China, citing the miraculous growth of China's economy from "once on the verge of collapse" to the fourth largest in the world.

"The Chinese people, once inadequately fed and clad, are leading a fairly comfortable life on the whole," he said, vowing to carry on the cause of his predecessors.

China will continue to power the engine of economic growth by quadrupling the per capita value of gross domestic production (GDP) of the year 2000 by 2020. But the rapid

growth will come under the conditions of reduced consumption of resources and greater efforts in environmental protection, Hu said.

Meanwhile, China will manage to narrow the yawning income gap, expand democracy, prevent and check corruption, modernize its armed forces and enhance the soft power of its culture.

The congress, which will last for seven days till Sunday, is regarded as the most important political event in China in five years. Altogether 2,237 delegates from across the country attended the congress.

(Xinhua)



Canucks, fans of Taichi

As many as 30 people from a Canadian Taichi Group visited Beijing Wednesday to practice Taichi in front of the National Stadium. The demonstration was a goodwill effort for the coming Olympic Games. They will revisit the capital during the Games for further cultural exchange.

CFP Photo

Rare blood types united online, save lives

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Norwegian adopts mascot panda

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'Beautiful' Olympics promise flame on world's highest peak

The government is confident that the Olympic flame will weather strong gales, downpours, sudden hail and thin air to burn brightly and beautifully on the world's tallest peak of Mount Qomolangma, known in the west as Mount Everest, a technician said Thursday.

Deputy General Manager Xue Li with the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corp, designer of the torch for the 2008 Games, said a lab had been established to develop a special Olympic flame combustion system to overcome

adverse natural conditions.

"The flame, about 20 to 30 centimeters high, should be bright and pleasing to the eyes," the delegate to the ongoing 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China said.

The flame is designed to be able to withstand strong storms with wind speeds of about 25 to 33 meters per second and heavy rains with a per-hour precipitation of 50 or more millimeters, he said.

Xue said that besides drawing upon the experiences from previous Olympic flame designs, Chi-

nese technicians have also made a number of innovations to ensure the flame can outlive wind and storms on top of the Mount Qomolangma, which stands at 8,845 meters above sea level.

He also assured that the fuel would be well-stored and pollution-free.

To host an impressive and successful Olympics, the government promised the world it would relay the torch from Olympia, Greece, the cradle of the Olympiad, to Mount Qomolangma upon its application to

host the event.

We will live up to our commitment," Head of the General Administration of Sport Liu Peng, also a delegate to the Party congress, said. The Communist Party of China blended the 2008 Games and the Paralympics in Beijing into its political report at the congress, which meets every five years, vowing to host these events successfully.

Liu said that apart from the technological advancements to protect the Olympic flame, China also enjoyed an advantage in

mountaineering, a sport with 40 years of history in China.

"Many Chinese athletes, men and women, have climbed the mount. Some have reached the peak more than once. The Tibetan mountaineering team has climbed the world's 14 mountains which exceed 8,000 meters in height," Liu told journalists at a briefing on Wednesday.

Technical difficulties in relaying TV signals from the "roof of the world" have also been solved, he said.

(Xinhua)

Nation's first moon probe to launch

By Huang Daohen

China's first lunar orbiter, the Chang'e I, is to be launched at the end of this month, a senior official said Tuesday, adding that researchers and technicians have completed final preparations.

The orbiter is scheduled to blast off from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Sichuan Province, Zhang Qingwei, minister in charge of the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense, said Tuesday while in the capital to attend the 17th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

A Long March-3 carrier rocket and the Chang'e I orbiter have already been set up on the launch pad, the official said. His team has almost finished pre-launch tests on the carrier rocket and orbiter, he said.

The satellite, named after the legendary Chinese goddess who flew to the moon, will orbit the Earth five to seven times before heading to the moon within 12 days.

"The best times for a launch are in April or October. We chose October after taking weather patterns and celestial conditions into account," Zhang said, noting the peaceful objectives the country has in lunar exploration.

The days from October 22 to 25, an expert at the center said, are the best for a launch. "However, the detailed launch time cannot be revealed yet," the official said. The Beijing Youth Daily reported that the Chang'e I would launch on October 24 at 6 pm.

As the nation's first moon probe launch, the government is offering the public a chance to view the launch. This month, 2,000 tickets to visit the launch center went on sale.

Only Chinese citizens are allowed to purchase tickets, priced 800 yuan each, according to the ticket agency, Chengdu Chan'e Benyue.

China became the third country to carry out a manned space mission when it launched an astronaut in the Shenzhou V in 2003.

Firefighters get ATVs for the Games



The capital's firefighting authority introduced four ATVs from Austria yesterday, which will be used to cope with fires in beach, underground and mountainous regions during the Beijing Olympic Games.

CFP Photo

Six new subway lines set to ease capital's traffic jams

By Jiang Xubo

The municipal authority has approved construction of six new subway lines, whose construction is scheduled to begin by the end of the year and end in 2012.

The new lines - lines 6, 8 and 9, the second phase of line 10 line, and the Yizhuang and Daxing lines - will extend the city's subway system by 152 kilometers, the Beijing Municipal Commission of Urban Planning (BMCUP) announced this week on its website.

The No 6 line, with 21 stations along its 42-kilometer rail, will connect Wulu in Haidian District with the new urban area in east Tongzhou District.

No 8 line, which will connect Huilongguan in Changping District, will extend some 16 kilometers with ten stations.

The No 9 line, at more than 16 kilometers long with 14 stations, will connect Guogongzhuang in Fengtai District with Baishiqiao Bridge in Haidian District.

The second phase of the No 10 line will begin with Jinsong in Chaoyang District and end with Guangcailu in Fengtai District, extending the whole line to some 32 kilometers of rail and 25 stations.

The Yizhuang line will connect Songjiazhuang in Fengtai District with Yizhuang in Daxing District with 23 kilometers of rail and 14 stations.

The Daxing line between Nanzhao Road in the Daxing Economic Development Zone and Majialou in Fengtai District will be 22 kilometers long with 11 stations.

On average, some eight mil-

lion people are expected to take the subways everyday in 2012, when the new lines are put into use, accounting for 23 percent of the capital's total passenger traffic, a unnamed spokesman for BMCUP said.

Approval for the new lines came a week after line 5's grand opening. The capital's first main underground artery of traffic, which runs from north to south, is believed to have eased traffic congestion, local newspapers reported.

The government also cut subway ticket prices from three and five yuan to a fixed two yuan earlier this month as part of its efforts to encourage people to take the subways.

Beijing currently has five subway lines in operation, with a total length of 142 kilometers.

Brief news

Exchange reserves top US \$1.4 trillion

The country's foreign exchange reserves topped US \$1.4 trillion at the end of last month, up as much as 45 percent over the same period last year, a People's Bank of China spokesman said.

US \$47 billion FDI

The country has used US \$47 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI) so far this year, up as much as 10 percent over the same period last year, a Ministry of Commerce spokesman said.

6.5 million China-made autos

Sales of China-made autos hit 6.5 million units during the first nine months of this year, a surge of 24 percent over the same period last year, an announcement from China Association of Automobile Manufacturers said on Tuesday.

(By Jiang Xubo)

Worming up to weight loss craze 'reckless'

By Gan Tian

In the latest bid to battle Beijingers' burgeoning waistlines, netizens at Baidu's Post Bar have started selling roundworm eggs as a new magic diet pill. Posters claim to have lost 20 kilograms since drinking a bottle of intentionally-tainted water.

"I've heard super stars and rich women use them to lose weight," Luo Rui, a woman entertainer, said.

Online rumors have pointed to one formerly-chubby local

star's staggeringly speedy weight loss as being due to roundworm egg abuse.

The worms, more specifically Ascariasis, are a parasite spread by ingestion of worm eggs. When the eggs hatch, larvae burrow into the lungs, from whence they are coughed up and swallowed back into the intestinal track.

Inside their new 37-degree home, the worms anchor to the intestinal wall where they feed on partially-digested food and mature to an adult length of 30

centimeters. The sellers said this feeding can help host organisms lose weight.

Beijing Youth Daily reported that a Shandong man surnamed Guo has been selling the eggs, and many netizens have posted messages naming him as their source. Guo said he raises all the eggs on his own.

"A woman in Guangdong paid me more than 600 yuan for the eggs," he said. In Guo's package to the customer, there was a bottle of liquid, which Guo claimed con-

tained the roundworm eggs. He asked customer to take the liquid with water five times, and then the liquid would take effect.

A netizen named Crymax said he gets five customers a day calling for information on roundworm eggs. "Usually I can make 200 yuan on each sale. It is safe to drink the eggs, because human bodies know what is useful and what is harmful. If the roundworms were useless or harmful, the body would just kill them and dump them out," he said.

However, Liang Benyuan, a worker at The Third Hospital of Beijing University, said ingesting the eggs, even intentionally, is dangerous. "Roundworms are harmful to human bodies, and sometimes, their larvae will burrow into blood vessels and travel into the brain. This is an incredibly reckless way to try to lose weight," he said.

Currently, China does not have any laws regulating the sale of roundworm eggs for this purpose, he said.

Japanese arrested for human organ trade

By Huang Daohen

A Japanese man accused of brokering human transplant operations was arrested in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, on suspicion of illegally engaging in business, Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said Tuesday.

Liu said the man, believed to be Hiroyuki Nagase, posted human organ brokerage messages on the Internet regularly since 2004 under the name of "China International Organ Transplant Support Centre." The messages claimed to provide organ transplant services for Japanese patients.

The ministry determined that Nagase's brokerage activities had gone beyond the realm of the business for which his company was registered.

"This act violates the Ministry of Health's regulations which ban trade of human organs," the spokesman said.

In addition to Nagase, others involved in the case have also been detained. The case remains under investigation, Liu said.

Japan's Jiji Press reported that Nagase helped arrange organ transplants for 200 Japanese patients in Liaoning and Shanghai hospitals.

"There is a shortage of organ donors worldwide, and China is the last resort for those who have failed to find donors locally," Nagase was quoted by Jiji as saying before his arrest.

He denied that his company was engaged in organ sales, and it did not directly deal with organ providers, Jiji reported.

Nagase's arrest is believed to have been part of an effort to crack down on illegal organ trade in the run-up to next year's Beijing Olympics.

China's first set of regulations on human organ transplants, which prohibit organizations and individuals from trading human organs in any form, went into effect this May.

In response to media claims that extracting parts from executed prisoners is common, the government issued a circular last week that China will no longer transplant organs from executed prisoners except to give them to immediate relatives, Xinhua reported.



Community holds ceremony to mark Golden Marriages

Xinhuali community in Xicheng District held a Golden Marriage ceremony for 18 couples yesterday, marking the 50th anniversary of their marriages on eve of the country's Double Ninth Festival.

CFP Photo

Rare blood types united online, save lives

By Jackie Zhang

Mao Chenbing, 20, lives in Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province. He is part of the one percent of Chinese people with type AB negative blood, the world's rarest, nicknamed "panda blood" for its incredible scarcity.

Last month, Mao, a college student at the China Academy of Art in Hangzhou, hurried to Guizhou Province to donate 240 milliliters of blood to save a pregnant woman who was in critical condition after blood loss caused by an ectopic pregnancy.

The Home for Scarce Blood Types in China (HSBTC), of which Mao is a member, was founded last May. To date, 2,000 people from 288 cities in China have joined the union. People with scarce blood types can only find one match among thousands or tens of thousands of people. When they can't find a matching donor, their lives may be in danger.

"The union provides them a

chance to help others, as well as themselves," Lin Feng, founder of the union, said. Union members have offered help to people with scarce blood types in 147 critical cases.

Lin Feng himself has a scarce blood type. "I knew it in 2001 but didn't pay much attention to it," he said. "In 2005, a taxi driver was hurt when fighting with a mobster. He had a scarce blood type, but the hospital couldn't find a match to save him. It shocked me, and I realized that people who need scarce blood types, including myself, are in danger."

"I realized it's necessary to connect people with scarce blood types over the Internet so we can help each other in times of need," he said.

Lin began searching for people online with scarce blood types, gradually forming a group of Hangzhou and Wuhan residents. Besides people with Rh negative blood types, some

people of P blood group and Bombay blood type (Rh neutral) are also union members.

The union now offers emergency rescue service and there are two consultant telephones. When people send messages for help via the Internet or telephone, the union tries to verify the report.

"Once we confirm that there are people in need of blood, we contact our members and ask whoever matches to help," Lin said. "Only people with scarce blood types can join. We have a series of steps to verify the person's blood type."

Lin said the Internet is the best way to connect members and update their information. "The biggest problem is how to keep in touch with medical teams to provide people in need with a chance to live. I hope to establish an online platform, sharing information with people all over China on scarce blood types. Then, we can be more efficient."

Sperm bank starts supply service

By Huang Daohen

The door of hope for many infertile couples reopened this week as the city's first human sperm bank opened its sperm supply service, an official from the center confirmed Wednesday.

The sperm bank, located in the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Service Center, is among the first to offer the service publicly.

Founded in November 2005, the sperm bank can freeze 50,000 tubes of sperm and has already frozen 10,000 tubes.

"It has been a year and a half since the bank was established, but it takes time to recruit donors, to screen them and preserve the sperm," a Dr. Xu told the Beijing Morning Post, adding that the center has completed its quarantine and some of the frozen sperm can be provided to those in need.

Xu said the center will only provide sperm to hospitals approved by the Ministry of Health to assist in reproductive service.

Liang Xiaohui, a doctor from the sperm bank, said the service aims to ease reproductive concerns caused by worsening male reproductive health, such as aspermia and deteriorating sperm quality, which have become noticeable problems in China.

"Many people in their peak reproductive period delay pregnancy for various reasons. When they finally want to have a baby, they have already lost the ability to do so," Liang said. The price for the service was not mentioned.

Liang said a major reason for ongoing sperm shortage is the screening program for donors. About 1,000 volunteers came forward to donate sperm after the bank was established, but they had to pass a screening process which includes 18 medical tests.

"Public opinion about donation is another reason," Liang said, adding that many people think of sperm as a private thing, which cannot be donated.

She said those with a good educational background form the majority of sperm donors. "Over 90 percent of the volunteers are college students," she said.

State regulations don't place any requirements on donors. They only stipulate that they should be healthy both physically and mentally.

China considers levying environmental tax on polluters

(Reuters) – China is considering an environmental tax on polluters to cut emissions, a senior government official said on Monday.

"We are actively promoting this idea, but we have to consult with relevant ministries," Pan Yue, deputy head of the State Environmental Protection Administration, said.

Beijing has put environmental protection at the center stage of its macro policies guiding the world's fourth-largest economy to achieve sustainable growth, though analysts are skeptical when it comes to implementing the well-intended rules.

Pan did not give details on the scope of the tax levy or a time frame when such a new policy would come into effect.

President Hu Jintao, speaking earlier on Monday to delegates at the 17th Party Congress, said China's economic growth has come at "an excessively high cost of resources and the environment." He vowed to improve the pricing mechanism for scarce resources to account for environmental costs, among other market factors.

Already the world's top emitter of sulphur dioxide, which causes acid rain, China will overtake the US as the biggest producer of greenhouse gas carbon dioxide this year or next.

China said last month that it would take environmental costs into account in electricity pricing to encourage power generation using clean and renewable resources.

Expert comment

By Huang Daohen

"It shall be appreciated that China has been aware of the environmental taxes, and it is high time that the government should do something," Steve Hatfield Dodds, senior policy economist of Australia, said.

Economists and politicians always tend to view new tax proposals very differently, Dodds said. Many economists consider environmental taxes to be an attractive incentive-based policy option, while politicians seem almost implacably opposed to new tax measures.

"Though different attitudes exist, I suggested that environmental taxes should only

be used where they have a clear advantage over alternative instruments," he said.

Efficiency, equity and adequacy are the three gods of the tax policy pantheon. The professor noted that environmental taxes score very well on each of these criteria.

Environmental taxes, Dodds said, stand out from the ordinary taxation crowd in that they have the potential to improve the efficiency of the tax system and the wider economy by improving resource allocation.

This contrasts markedly with the major revenue taxes. Taxes that encourage better environmental outcomes also

contribute to sustainability and inter generational equity, and may often also benefit disadvantaged groups, the professor said.

For example, he said, a tax differential discouraging the use of leaded petrol contributes to improved air quality and child health outcomes in poor urban areas.

And it is clear that some potential environmental taxes – particularly in the greenhouse area – would expand the revenue base and raise significant amounts of revenue, allowing other less desirable taxes to be removed or reduced, Dodds said.

Scholars talks on Yuanmingyuan protection



Experts from American Architect Association at the forum of "Yuanmingyuan Garden 300th Anniversary".
Xinhua Photo

New checks to aid product safety

(AP) – China is enforcing strict standards for its exports, and will continue to work to regain consumer confidence in its products, a top quality official said Wednesday.

Li Changjiang, head of China's General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, said officials have taken substantial measures to ensure that goods are made by certified manufacturers with qual-

ified materials.

There will be checks at various stages of production, Li said, and authorities will also make it easier for exporters with good records to quickly pass customs inspections – all part of the Cabinet-level safety campaign launched in August.

Li said Beijing and Washington have been in close contact and have sent delegations to discuss the quality issue.

"This month I will send my

deputy to talk with officials with the US Food and Drug Administration ... on signing a memorandum on food safety," Li said. "I believe both parties have adopted active measures."

He also praised an apology by toy giant Mattel, which recalled more than 21 million Chinese-made toys worldwide this summer.

Li said that 87 percent of Mattel's recalled toys had problems with design.

China to build commercial oil storage facility in Hainan

(XFN-ASIA) – China plans to build a commercial oil storage facility at the Yangpu Development Zone in southern China's Hainan province, the Sinopec-owned China Petrochemical News reported, citing a senior official with the Hainan provincial government.

Jiang Sixian, deputy governor of Hainan province, was quoted

as saying that the oil storage facility will have an annual throughput of ten million cubic meters.

The negotiations with relevant partners on the project is just about finished, Jiang said.

He didn't disclose who the partners are or the amount of investment in the project, however.

Local media reported earlier that Saudi Arabia and China plan to

build a large crude oil storage facility in Hainan, with a projected storage capacity of 25-30 million tons.

The site is expected to supply oil to their joint refinery in Fujian province and contain part of China's oil reserves.

The Hainan government plans to apply with the central government to build a strategic oil reserve base in Yangpu, Jiang noted.

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Mind the Gap

A database of 50 years of Beijing Review contents is soon to be unveiled

China to curb capital inflows to safeguard 'economic stability'

(XFN-ASIA) — China plans to continue curbing short-term speculative capital inflows to safeguard "economic and financial stability," the foreign exchange regulator said.

The State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE), an arm of the central bank, said in

a statement posted on its website that one of its chief policy concerns is preventing China's economic and financial system from being affected by short-term capital movements.

Capital inflows will be subject to tighter monitoring, the SAFE said. Continued capital inflows

have put tremendous pressure on monetary policy because the central bank is forced to release money into the economy to buy up the inflows.

Asset prices have soared and inflation pressure is mounting as a result.

China's foreign exchange

reserves rose by a further US \$100 billion in the third quarter to US \$1.43 trillion. Contributions from the trade surplus totaled US \$73.2 billion and foreign direct investment US\$15.3 billion.

The unaccounted portion was likely made up of "hot money" chasing high returns in China.

Approval mechanism for phone production ends

By Huang Daohen

The State Council has recently announced plans to cancel and make adjustments on 186 items subject to administrative approval, including the approvals mechanism for mobile phone production implemented by the National Reform and Development Commission in 2004.

Nine other telecom items whose administrative approval were also canceled along with that of mobile phone production.

In July 2004, the State Council issued a document in which it said that projects regarding the production of mobile communications systems and terminals shall be reviewed and approved by the State and in February 2005, NRDC formally initiated the approval mechanism for mobile phone production.

Statistics from the Ministry of Information Industry show since February 2005, 41 new mobile phone manufacturers have been approved in China.

China's biggest bank plans branches abroad

(Canadian Press) — China's biggest bank, government-owned Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, will open its first U.S. branch as part of a global expansion, a state news agency quoted its chairman as saying Wednesday.

"Preparations have been going on smoothly. We hope to receive approval from American authorities as early as possible," ICBC chairman Jiang Jianqing said, according to the Xinhua News Agency. The report gave no dates concerning the US expansion.

The director of ICBC's press department in Beijing, Xie Taifeng, confirmed that the bank plans to open a US branch but declined to say when or where it would be located.

On Tuesday, officials confirmed that another state-owned bank is bidding for a minority stake in US securities firm Bear Stearns amid a rapid foreign expansion by Chinese financial institutions.

ICBC already has branches abroad in Hong Kong, Macau, Singapore, Tokyo, Frankfurt, Luxembourg and Seoul and Pusan in South Korea, according to the bank's website.



International Toy Expo opens

Shanghai Toy Expo opened Wednesday at the Shanghai New International Expo Center. It has drawn in 372 enterprises from 19 countries. Xinhua Photo

Nasdaq partners with Shenzhen, eyes China SME listings

(Reuters) — Nasdaq Stock Market and its Chinese counterpart, the Shenzhen Stock Exchange, have agreed to cooperate as China prepares to launch its own Nasdaq-style market for start-up firms this year.

The smaller of China's two national stock bourses and Nasdaq will enhance their business cooperation and information sharing, Zhang Yujun, general manager of the Shenzhen bourse, said.

Nasdaq also expected that Shenzhen bourse, which was preparing

to launch China's second board market, would introduce domestic small and medium-sized companies to list on Nasdaq in the future, said Robert Greifeld, Nasdaq's chief executive, who was in Shanghai for the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and for a forum of exchange officials.

"That's the possible outcome of the MOU," Greifeld told Reuters when asked about further cooperation with its Chinese partner. "It's part of what we want to discuss with the Shenzhen Stock Exchange," he

said without elaborating.

Last month, Nasdaq won approval from the China Securities Regulatory Commission to set up a representative office in Beijing. Nasdaq is hoping to encourage Chinese firms to list on its technology-focused stock exchange.

Beijing so far has approved just two foreign bourses, including Nasdaq and its bigger rival NYSE Euronext (NYSE.N: Quote, Profile, Research), to open official representative offices in the world's fastest growing major capital market.

China Mobile hopes for A-Share IPO

(Dow Jones) — China Mobile Ltd (CHL) hopes to list A shares as soon as possible, Chief Executive Wang Jianzhou said Monday.

However, the company doesn't have a listing timetable yet and still faces regulatory hurdles, he said.

Wang's comments on the sidelines of the 17th Communist Party Congress in Beijing are a reiteration of the mobile carrier's stance on a domestic listing.

We are actively getting ready for an A-share listing, he said.

Though its parent firm is state-owned, China Mobile is registered in Hong Kong. Under current Chinese regulations, companies registered abroad can't list locally.

Coca Cola sets up research centre for herbal drinks

(AFP) — The Coca Cola Company said Wednesday it had launched a research centre for traditional Chinese medicine in Beijing to develop beverages using Chinese herbal ingredients and formulas.

"We see this center as an important step in strengthening our innovation pipeline for beverages that contribute to well being," Rhona Applebaum, vice president and chief science and regulatory officer of Coca Cola, said.

"We can add global reach and world class marketing skills to help promote Chinese wisdom in preventive holistic health through new and innovative beverages," Applebaum said.

Coca Cola said it might market the products abroad, but there were not concrete plans yet.

Coca Cola currently produces and sells sparkling drinks, still beverages as well as tea and waters in China, a fast growing market.

The research center is part of a long term collaboration agreement with the Chinese Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, it said.

Volkswagen considers expansion

(Iht.com) — Volkswagen, which said three years ago that it would not build any more plants in China, now says it could expand production in the country by 2010 because of rising sales in the world's second-largest auto market.

"By 2010, we'll need additional capacity and we are discussing this with our partners," Winfried Vahland, 50, the president of the company's China unit, said in an interview Friday in Beijing. The company, the biggest foreign automaker in China, will have production capacity of almost 1 million vehicles in China this year, he added.

Vahland took over Volkswagen's China operations in July 2005, months before the automaker announced its first loss in the country in more than two decades.

Extinct South China tiger re-emergs in wild?

By Huang Daohen

The South China tiger, a subspecies of the tiger believed extinct in the wild for two decades, came back into the spotlight this week when a digital photograph of the animal in the wild was posted on the Internet.

The picture, with the tiger lying in the grass and looking ahead, was alleged to have been photographed in a mountainous area of Shaanxi Province. Whether the picture was genuine or not drew immediate concern and sparked hot public debate.

The photograph was taken by Zhou Zhenglong, 52, a hunter-turned-farmer in Encai Village, on October 3 by a cliff in Zhenping County, Shaanxi Province, Xinhua reported from Shaanxi Province.

Experts from the Shaanxi Forestry Administration Bureau later confirmed the 40 digital pictures and 31 film photographs were genuine. "After careful examination, experts confirmed the authenticity of the photos. That means the tiger has been discovered again after more than 20 years," the bureau's deputy director Zhu Julong was quoted as saying.

This week, forestry authorities have issued a circular to ban all hunting around a northwest-



This controversial picture of the South China tiger, snapped by Zhou Zhenglong, recently drew public concern.
Photo by Zhou Zhenglong

ern mountain where the tiger was spotted. The Forestry Department of Shaanxi Province also ordered checkpoints at the main entrances to the mountain area, aiming to prevent uncontrolled entry and protect the endangered species and its habitat.

The Forestry Department is considering establishing a nature reserve for the South China tiger in areas around the mountain, local media reported.

The South China tiger is one of the world's smallest tigers, and the only subspecies native to Chi-

na's central and southern areas.

Statistics show that in the early 1950s, there were 4,000 of the tigers across the country, but that number fell as their habitat was squeezed by the economic boom. Today, 68 South China tigers remain in zoos.

Comment

Eyes don't deceive

It's absolutely real! I swear that the picture is genuine – I'd bet my life on it. I once earned a living by hunting. When I was told that finding the rare tiger could be worth a one million yuan reward, I headed for the mountain.

– Zhou Zhenglong, the photographer

Respect the farmer

The farmer risked his life chasing that tiger – he deserves respect. He knows what the local government wants, and he was supported by local forestry officials.

– Yang Guo, resident

Face work for the government

Hasn't the local government been too hasty in confirming the authenticity of the picture? I heard Shaanxi Province is trying to apply for a nature reserve for the tiger. If the picture is real and the tiger does exist, that would help speed the application process. I hope this isn't more face work for the local government.

– Simon Zhang, student

Third party needed

The confirmation of the picture and existence of the South China tiger isn't something that should be confirmed by local authorities or the farmer. A third party not involved in for the reward should be invited to learn if the tiger really exists. Only then should the local government take action to protect what may be an extinct animal.

– Peng Li, commentator

Photo was tampered with

Obviously, this photograph was heavily modified in Photoshop. Look carefully at the tiger's eyes. It looks far too tame. A wild monster should be far more ferocious.

– Xiaohai, blogger

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Norwegian adopts mascot panda

By Jiang Xubo

A Norwegian businessman adopted a giant panda for its lifetime last Saturday in Chengdu, Sichuan Province.

Stein Frode Ertzeid, who has worked in China for some years with involvement in a variety of businesses from investing to consulting, will pay 50,000 yuan every year to care for Jingjing, a female panda at the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding (CRBGPB), till the end of her life.

The panda, born August 30, 2005, was named after Jingjing, one of the five mascots of the Beijing Games, several months after her birth. On average, a giant panda's lifespan is 25 years.

Ertzeid will be able to visit Jingjing at the center anytime he likes, and the center will provide him with regular updates on Jingjing's condition, according to the adoption agreement.

"My whole life I have admired pandas. My first teddy bear was actually a panda called 'Lomsingen,' and it was my favorite toy for many years. When I look at a panda, it is easy to realize how wonderful life on this planet can be," Ertzeid said. "I admire what China



Stein Frode Ertzeid with his adopted panda

Photo provided by CRBGPB

and the center have done for this threatened species, so I decided to become a part of it."

To the animal lover, Jingjing seemed to be sort of a natural choice.

"Jingjing is vital for breeding, as all women are," Ertzeid explained, "She is also the beginning of the next generation of brave little pandas. I want her to be a symbol for all the struggling pandas in the world and to inspire us to be as brave as her."

However, it was a very cautious decision for the center to give its approval to Ertzeid.

"We said no to many companies' offers to adopt Jingjing out of the fear that they would exploit her, for she has built her reputation as a mascot," chief of the center's research department, who is surnamed Wang, said, "While Ertzeid, as an individual, adopted the panda just out of his love for the animal. What's more, he promised a lifetime

adoption, which would secure regular funds for Jingjing's existence."

The center has appealed to the public for donations and adoptions since the 1980s to cover the gap in funds for pandas protection. Six pandas, including Jingjing, have received lifetime support.

For adoption or more information, visit panda.org.cn, call (86) 028 8350 7901, or send an email to pandabase@tom.com.

MLTR finds its Chinese voice

By Gan Tian

World-famous Danish band, Michael Learns To Rock (MLTR), gave a small-scale show last Saturday, moving its Chinese fans to tears with their old and popular songs.

The band's Beijing trip aims to promote their latest album, *I Walk This Road Alone*, in which three new songs and 13 classical songs are included. What's special about this album is the hit called "I Walk This Road Alone," which is a cover version of Chinese local star Cui Jian's song "Yiwusuoyou" ("I Have Nothing"). The band became extremely famous amongst Chinese fans after they released a song called "Take Me to Your Heart" in their 2004 album, which is also a cover of Hong Kong entertainer Jackie Zhang's song, "Wenbie" ("Kissing Goodbye").

Previously, band members all insisted on making their own original tracks and refused to cover other artists' songs. Covering Jackie Zhang's song was accidental. After hearing Zhang's melody, they decided to put their version of the song on the extra list of the album. Jascha Richter, the main vocalist of the band, said, "We never thought it would become so popular in China, even in the world."

The band said all of the members are still learning from many excellent entertainers. "Cui Jian is a very good Chinese performer. To cover his song means we want to learn more from him," Richter said. He didn't deny that the market was another big determining factor.

Cavaliers and Magic lead NBA drive into China

By Huang Daoheng

The NBA's drive into China arrived in high gear this week as the Orlando Magic defeated the Cleveland Cavaliers 90-86 on Wednesday in Shanghai, providing Chinese fans a close-up look at the world's best basketball league.

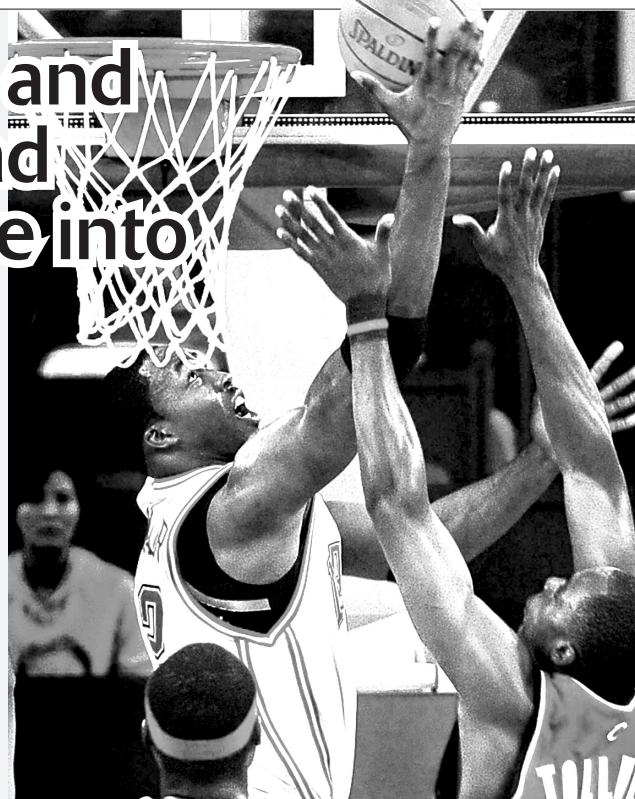
No mistaking, this was a pre-season game. But it wasn't an ordinary pre-season game.

It was the first of the league's three games in China, with NBA commissioner David Stern on hand to explain the league's massive expansion plans.

On Wednesday night, Dwight Howard's 31 points and 14 rebounds rallied Orlando's victory. James played only 28 minutes, and scored 17 points for Cleveland. The young legend rested late in the game when Orlando stepped up to take control.

"Every night is a test for us as a young team," Howard was quoted by the Associated Press as saying. "We've really got to stay focused. They didn't play their guys the whole game, but just to be out there was a good test for us."

"The atmosphere was amazing, everything is beyond my



Dwight Howard's outstanding performance rallied Orlando's victory on Wednesday night.

Photo by James Huang

expectations," James said. The young talent was not as concerned about the result. Enjoying the game was his first priority.

"I feel comfortable every time I come to China, so the number one thing for me is to enjoy my game here," he said. "I want my Chinese fans to enjoy the games as well."

Though defeated, James received a warm welcome from the Chinese fans. On Monday, at the LBJ Museum, a display dedicated to all things concerning

LeBron, was launched in Shanghai. The basketball phenomenon attracted some 2,000 fans.

Stern, however, has his plans during his visit in China. He released Wednesday that he is in talks with Chinese sporting authorities to establish a world-class basketball league. He didn't specify what form that would take, but Stern said the expansion will involve working with the 16-team China Basketball Association.

MLB invites Chinese students to Play Ball!

By Jiang Xubo

Students in 120 elementary schools in five cities across the country will hit possibly their first base ball in this year's autumn academic seminar thanks to a grassroots youth baseball program launched by Major League Baseball International (MLBI).

The program, Play Ball! will be incorporated into the physical education curriculum for boys aged eight-to-twelve in schools in Beijing, Tianjin, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Wuxi.

The program was targeted to reach over 100,000 students in the 2007-2008 school year alone, introducing rules of the game and developing their baseball skills.

The program will offer free equipment and should be ready to go as early as next month. As well, students may start their baseball courses at that time.

Thirty schools in the capital, which were assigned by the Beijing Municipal Education Commission, made the list.

"The Play Ball! program will put bats and balls into the hands of hundreds of thousands of young players in China in the coming years," Paul Archey, senior vice president of MLBI's Business Operations, said. "The program promises to play an important role in China's emergence as a baseball-playing nation."

"Baseball has been developing for a long time in China," Gan Beilin, Sports and Culture Director of the Beijing Education Bureau, said. "MLB's current promotion will be a big help towards pushing Chinese youth's enthusiasm for sports, not only in spurring the growth of baseball but also by pouring new energy into the development of Chinese youth sports," he said.

ZOU Marketing, a strategic sports branding agency, has been tapped by MLBI to manage the grassroots initiatives in China.

"We will help the schools to set up their baseball teams, and establish youth baseball leagues across the country. What's more, the youth leagues will see their first national championship event next March," Samuel Mao, a spokesman for ZOU Marketing, said without elaborating how much the program would cost.

As part of the preparation, ZOU helped in arranging a two-session coaching clinic for some 400 university and grade school-level physical education teachers in Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai between mid-July and early September. Led by Rick Dell, MLBI's Director of China Baseball Development, six experienced American baseball coaches instructed the prospective Play Ball! coaches on basic baseball skills and coaching techniques.

Play Ball! is MLBI's youth start-up program, supporting organizations that want to introduce or expand organized youth baseball in their communities. Since 1994, MLBI has conducted league and school-based youth programs in countries like Australia, Italy, Korea, Mexico, South Africa and the US territory Puerto Rico.

US embassy awards scholarship to hutong school

By Jackie Zhang

Bainian Vocational School (BNVS), located in Dafangjia Hutong, Chaoyang District, is well known to Beijing's migrant worker and expat communities. Workers from the US embassy visited the school Wednesday to award a scholarship to help students study English for the next two years.

The microscholarship program, sponsored by the US State Department, is aimed at giving disadvantaged youths an opportunity to improve their English skills and expand their education environment, an embassy spokesman said.

"It is the fourth year since the program started, and it is the first time the scholarship has been awarded to a Chinese school," Damon Anderson, regional director for English Language Programs, said. "This is a two-year program. The US\$47,000 scholarship will be used to help the children study English. During the two years, we will evaluate their studies each year."

The scholarship will be used to provide 60 children from migrant workers' families and families in bad financial situations with extra English education. These students will have an extra four hours of class every week, all fully paid.

Before signing over the



A student serves coffee to the guests. (From left, Don Washington, Yao Li, Damon Anderson)

Photo by Zhang Wei

award, Don Washington, minister-counselor of the embassy's Press and Cultural Affairs, was given a tour with Yao Li, chair of BNVS.

BNVS provides apprenticeship and practical training for students from rural areas who reside in Beijing. It is sponsored by different companies and institutions, which also provide work opportunities to its graduates.

Washington said that, although it was the first time the US embassy has officially

provided financial help to the school, he had seen photos of the ambassador's wife at a school charity party. "Some of the embassy staff have donated money and been volunteer teachers in the school already," he said.

"The school impressed me," Washington said, "There are materials for students to read, and professional facilities are provided for students to practice their knowledge. I think Yao Li is a good organizer."

China, EU join hands to clean Yellow River

By Han Manman

China and the European Union (EU) launched a campaign Tuesday to clean up the country's largest river basins – the Yellow and Yangtze rivers.

The five-year program will cost an estimated €175 million. It will cut industrial and human pollution along the middle reaches of the Yellow River, particularly in Henan, Shanxi and Shaanxi provinces, and uses €25 million in grants from EU, €80 million in loans from the World Bank and €70 million of local capital.

The project will assemble comprehensive plans and policies to control pollution on the Yellow River and promote the public awareness of the effects of industrial pollution and waste discharge along its middle reaches.

Money will also go to Yunnan, Guizhou and Hubei province and Chongqing municipality residents to encourage planting of economic and ecological forests to improve ecological reservations along the upper and

middle reaches of the Yangtze.

As part of the effort, Europe's more advanced river administration systems will be brought to China and implemented domestically.

The project was initiated at the 2005 China-EU summit in Beijing, and will be supervised by the Ministry of Water Resources, the State Administration for Environmental Protection (SAEP), the water resources committees of the two rivers and the EU.

The program was launched after China's environmental watchdog began to tighten control over serious polluting areas of four major rivers, also including the Huaihe and Haihe rivers.

Under the order of SAEP, local authorities in six cities, two counties and five industrial zones – all in the vicinity of the four rivers – must fix their "environmental problems" in three months. A nationwide monitoring effort revealed that water running through these regions was "heavily polluted" during the first quarter of 2007.

Concert slated to start Greek culture year

By Han Manman

A concert featuring a new piece by Greek composer Stamatios Spanoudakis will be performed at the Beijing Poly Theatre today as part of Cultural Year of Greece in China (CYGC), which runs until September 2008.

The concert, features Spanoudakis's "Alexandros – Paths You Never Walked," and will be performed by the National Symphony Orchestra of ERT (Greek Radio and Television Corporation) and the ERT Chorus. The piece is based on the composer's hero, Alexander the Great.

Classical Memories in Modern Greek Art, an exhibition organized by the National Gallery of Greece in collaboration with the Alexander S Onassis Public Benefit Foundation as part of CYGC, opens in Beijing Capital Museum this week and closes November 16.

The exhibition shows 63 works, and is intended to present the spirit of ancient Greece as interpreted by modern Greek artists, the ways in which it has inspired them and the ways



The new Hellenic Cultural Centre

Photo provided by Greek Embassy

ancient culture is represented in 20th century art.

The Hellenic Cultural Centre is also expected to open a Beijing location where it will host exhibitions, seminars and commercial events, Michael Kambanis, ambassador of the Hellenic Republic, said.

As part of CYGC, the Hellenic Republic will present theatrical performances, cinema tributes, dance, archaeological studies, modern art exhibitions, opera, folk concerts, modern and popular music, conferences and book exhibitions to showcase Hellenic culture.

Biometric identification tests put British visas on hold

By Jackie Zhang

The Visa Application Centers of British Embassy in China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chongqing locations, will be closed to applicants from today to next Wednesday while a new biometric identification system is implemented.

The British Government is introducing biometric data collection, including finger scans and digital photographs, as part of a world-wide biometric identification process aimed to protect identity, facilitate future entry to

the UK and combat visa fraud and abuse of the UK's immigration and asylum systems.

Starting next Friday, all visa applicants, irrespective of nationality, will have to apply in person to a Visa Application Center and have finger scans and digital photographs taken.

Finger scans will be collected from each applicant using an electronic scanner. No ink, liquid or chemicals will be used. A digital photograph will be taken at the same time, and the procedure is estimated to take 5 minutes.

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or jianzhong@ynet.com (Mr. Zhang)

Organizers:

Beijing Today

Beijing Rongding Investment Company

Beijing Walking Center



PINNACLE PLAZA

Singapore Season in China 2007 opens

By Gan Tian

World famous Singapore Season in China (SSC) opened last week and continues until November 10 with a series of activities.

The SSC committee will be hosting a lot of events. At present, the exhibition, "Hybricity: Singapore," is being held at 798 Art District, where you can see works in various fields by seven Singaporean artists. This exhibition continues until this Sunday. Another exhibition called "Encounters and Journeys" at the China National Museum shows three important works of Chen Wen Hsi, Goh Beng Kwan, and Wong Keen.

Until this Sunday, visitors can also explore the Capital Land Malls at Xizhimen, Xicheng, where they will enjoy various Singapore-themed events, featuring the sights, sounds and flavors of Singapore.

Two Singapore Evening gala dinners are being held – one took place in Beijing last Friday and one will be presented in Shanghai on October 26 – which will showcase a blend of Singapore cuisine, artistry and cultural extravaganza.

In Shanghai, there are many other activities such as JJ Lin's concert and literature lectures at Fudan University. In addition, the Sin-



The artists attending the exhibition *Hybricity: Singapore*.

Photo provided by OgilvyPR

gapore Film Festival starting next Friday will showcase smaller countries cultures, with films like, *I Not Stupid, Too*.

Tan Chin Nam, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Information, Communications and the

Arts and the chairman of the Singapore Season Steering Committee, said, "Through the SSC 2007, we hope to present a new face of Singapore – a city with cultural diversity and vibrancy, as well as artistic excellence and distinc-

tiveness – to the people in China. Singapore is more than a travel destination and a value added business partner for China. It is a global city of opportunities and an attractive place to live, work and play."

Soprano Dame and Beijing IFC get back to Bach this weekend



Emma Kirkby rehearsing in the Forbidden City Music Hall

Photo by Annie Wei

By Annie Wei

The Beijing International Festival Chorus (IFC) is holding its October event, Bach Mass in B Minor, this Saturday in the Forbidden City Concert Hall. What makes it proud this time is the appearance of featured internationally-acclaimed British soprano Dame Emma Kirkby.

As an amateur chorus, the Beijing IFC in fact has a very high level of performance with members from diverse backgrounds including diplomats, university students, teachers and business people. However, performing with someone of Kirkby's status does not happen in

Beijing every day.

Googling her name, she is described as "one of the treasures in the world of music."

Kirkby admits that she never intended to be a professional singer and it is a question she is often asked. Instead, she enjoyed her time in the chorus, "I love that and singing with others," Kirkby said.

It is her first time visiting Beijing. She is doing a ten-day tour with a concert in Seoul next week. The Beijing concert is comparatively smaller and offering quieter music.

Therefore she says she doesn't

know too much about China and Chinese audiences yet. "There are some awesome Chinese musicians, like pianists" and she found that the Beijing IFC did a great rehearsal on Wednesday night, the day she arrived.

Discussing her preparation for Bach Mass in B Minor, she said that audience would enjoy the piece more by looking for different instruments throughout it, as well as the different textures.

"The last piece is really beautiful." The choral music with Emma Kirkby should be a new and exciting experience for music lovers on Saturday night.

Australian football seeks business opportunities in China

By Annie Wei

The Melbourne Football Club came to Beijing this week, exploring the opportunities and business benefits between China and Australian football.

To the majority of young Chinese men, teams like the NBA, European soccer, luxury goods and the American baseball league are well known, but Australian football is still very new.

Since Monday, 26 members of the Melbourne Football Club are enjoying a ten-day visit. The group is joined by nine players, five club staff, a City of Melbourne Executive, club icon Ron Barassi, leading sports consultant and former AFL and Test cricketer Max Walker,

and a group of corporates with Chinese interests.

"They see the sporting culture as a missing link in the diplomatic and economic leveraging of Australia-China relations," the Australian Embassy said.

"China has stated that it sees popular culture as a key lever for its people to be proud, productive and prosperous. It is investing enormously into public culture via the 2008 Olympics, 2010 Expo, 2011 Asia Games, its voracious appetite for the NBA, European soccer and luxury goods," Melbourne CEO Steve Harris said.

Also, according to the club, there were as many as 4,000 Chinese university students at the

Australian Football game earlier this year and Chinese immigrants or Chinese expats in Melbourne have become an important part of their history and relationship for the future.

"The fact that so much of today's Melbourne finds it impossible to imagine life without cultural diversity and global connections, reinforces the fact that culture will drive economics, and no less so in China," Harris said.

The Melbourne Football Club has posted an AFL youth ambassador in Tianjin. Australian Football has been endorsed nationally as an approved physical exercise in Chinese schools, according to Harris. At the same time, they

will handpick two young Chinese footballers to travel to Australia for training and development, and will take the game to ten junior schools, ten middle schools, and universities in Tianjin as part of their education system.

While a demonstration and competitive match is slated for future years, China is expected to participate in the AFL International Cup for the first time in 2008.

The club's itinerary began with an ambassadorial reception in Beijing which included cultural visits, football clinics, business matching forums, cultural exchanges, and personal development challenges across Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, and Suzhou.

Events

Illustrated lecture: The Renovation of a Courtyard House in Bell Casting Lane: an Odyssey with a Happy Ending

Architect Barbara Muench has renovated, modernized and partly rebuilt a traditional courtyard house near the Drum Tower, in the old centre of Beijing.

Muench will take us through the challenges and frustrations of home renovation in Beijing – "A Year in Provence" transposed to China. She will describe the problems she encountered from the acquisition of the house until the end of the construction period.

Where: The Portuguese Embassy, 8 Dongwujie, Sanlitun, Chaoyang

When: October 25, 7:30 pm

Jostein Gaarder at the Bookworm

By 1991, *Sophie's World* had been translated into 55 languages and has sold over 30 million copies. Gaarder's profound personal commitment and great fund of knowledge have inspired readers all over the world to think and ask questions about ourselves, our place in history and the world around us.

Where: The Bookworm, No 4 Building, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang

When: October 22, 7:30 pm

Tel: 6586 9507

Talk and screening: Ballet in China

Wang Ning, photographer, will give a presentation on *Ballet in China*. He has been documented China's ballet troupes all over China for many years, from their daily life, practice to rehearsals and performances.

Where: Room 201, the Chinese Culture Club, Kent Center, No 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: October 24, 7:30 pm-9:30 pm

Admission: 40 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341 (Monday-Friday, 9 am-6 pm), 6432 1041 (evenings; and weekend)

Lunch meeting: How a successful business leader manages stress effectively to achieve Healthy Living through a Body-Mind-Spirit Balancing Technique

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce in China will invite Dr BH Chong, who has extensive experience in providing Stress Management Therapy, Hypnotherapy and Health Therapy for Corporate Executives. Chong has had 23 years of work experience in large Multi-national companies.

Where: the Grill, the second floor of Radisson SAS Hotel, A 6 Donglu, North Third Ring Road, Chaoyang

When: October 23, 11:30 am-1:15 pm

Admission: free for members, 250 yuan for non-members

Tel: 5922 3388 ext 313

(By He Jianwei)



As many as 300 locals and expats joined in the walk held in Lijiang, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Photo provided by Beijing Today Walk Center

International citizen walking carnival kicks off

By Han Manman

Organized by the China Volkssport Association and the Beijing Today Walk Center, the first International Citizen Walking Carnival with the theme of "Walk for fun, Walk with Olympics, Walk to explore your neighborhood" will be held October 28 at the Beijing Pinnacle Plaza. All international citizens in Beijing are welcome to sign up.

The China Volkssport Association (CVA), in conjunction with Internationaler Volkssportverband (IVV), or International Federation of Popular Sports, is

China's biggest organization and stages walks all over China with outings every weekend.

The events they have organized, like Ten Years Walk on China's Great Wall, Ten Years Walk on China's Ancient Silk Road, Source of Yellow River Walking Exploration and Tibet Namtso Lake Walking Convention, are very popular with avid walkers.

For this hiking carnival, a family is a team. Individuals will be put into teams by the organizer. The first three arrived teams on each route will be the winners.

All the participants who complete the route will be given a walking certificate. Beijing 2008 Olympic Pinnacle Plaza Store will provide Olympic gifts to the winner. There are other prizes like Best performance award, best image award and environmentalist award.

Walking route

20 km: Pinnacle Plaza – Vila Districts – Rome Lake – Pinnacle Plaza

10 km: Pinnacle Plaza – Vila Districts – Pinnacle Plaza

There are 5 checkpoints along each walking route. You

need to show up at each point to get your certificate.

Schedule

Time: October 28

Venue: Pinnacle Plaza

Participants: All Central Vila District residents. No age limit. Trolley is allowed if child is under five.

How to join the walk

Call or email Beijing Today Walk Center at 8489 6319/20/21.

Email: ivv@mrqh.com, or come to Pinnacle Plaza on November 27.

For more information, please check at chinawalking.net.cn

ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: weiyang@ynet.com

Do you know of a place that sells TV folding tray/tables that you would use to sit in front of TV to eat?

You can find good deals online, or try local furniture stores like Jiajucheng (Furniture Town) in South Third Ring Road.

I just moved to Beijing and am looking for an apartment. I saw one and I was going to get it, but the landlord asked to keep my passport. Is that ok? Can I trust him?

As long as you and your landlord have a proper lease signed and you pay your deposit and rent on time, there is no need for him or her to keep your passport. You can refuse, or find another apartment whose landlord is more experienced in dealing with foreign tenants.

I went fishing with my Dad a lot when I was home. I also saw some people fishing here in Beijing, in very ugly ponds. Any ideas where I can find decent fishing spots in Beijing?

You should drive to Huairou, a suburb of Beijing. It takes around an hour to get there and the whole environment is good for fishing. Below are two recommended places by local fishing fans: Jinxiu Chuidiao Shangzhuang, Suyukou Cun, Qianxinzhen, Huairou, Tel: 6967 5450, 50 yuan per person but 70 yuan on holidays; Daoxiang Chuidiao Yuan, west side of Daxianghu Park, Xixiaoyingzhen Bei, Sujiatuoxiang, Haidian, Tel: 6245 6173, cost varies with type of fishing.

I have only been in Beijing a couple of weeks. Do you know of any good multiplex cinemas in Beijing and not the type of movie with Chinese sub-titles but with original soundtracks.

There are some, such as the Wanda Plaza, opposite to Jianwai Soho, exit at Dawanglu Subway. It's a brand new theater with half price tickets every Tuesday. Other cinemas like the one underground at Oriental Plaza, exit at Dongdan Subway, even have salted popcorn.

I need some information about dog places where I can take my little dog.

Guodu Chongwu Leyuan is new destination with a big array of pets, toys and garden plants. It is located at Qingheyang, Laiguangying, Chaoyang (Tel: 6806 8928), free admission. There is another new one called Coolbaby Pet Park, east of Chaoyang Park Tennis Center (Tel: 6500 6295). The latter one is closer to the downtown and costs 10 yuan per person and dog. The place also has a pet-friendly restaurant. (By Wei Ying)

Beijing 2007 Marathon to be held on Sunday

By Annie Wei

A running competition like a marathon is kind of rare in Beijing. Don't miss the opportunity to be a runner or sideline supporter this Sunday at the Beijing 2007 Marathon.

The event has been held every October since 1981 and has become one of China's most famous international races, especially because of its start at legendary Tian'anmen Square. However, as the 17th National Congress is happening at the

same time, the starting and finishing locations for the Beijing 2007 Marathon have been changed to the National Olympic Sports Center.

The race includes four kinds, the 42-kilometer full marathon, the 21-kilometer half marathon and the ten and four-kilometer mini-marathons. The Elite Men participants will start at eight on Sunday morning with a starting time of 8:15 am for the Elite Women and all other runners. And the award ceremony will take place between 10



Beijing Marathon is held every year.

CFP Photo

am and 12 am.

For amateur runners and spectators who want to get to the National Olympic Sports Center by bus, you can take bus No 18, 108, 124, 207, 328, 358, 380,

409, 426, 644, 653, 694, 758, 803, 849, 850, 858, 985 and Te2 to the east gate of the Olympic Sports Center. For runners, you must enter the starting area from the North Gate.

Experience cultural festival at Beijing University

By Jackie Zhang

The fourth International Cultural Festival of Beijing University will be held tomorrow on campus. The university has staged the festival for the past four years, with over 4,000 international students from over 80 countries all over the world on campus, providing a stage for young international students to communicate, make friends and learn about other countries' cultures and traditions.

"The International Cultural Festival now is a brand event

of Beijing University," Xia Hongwei, a teacher from the Office of International Relations, said. "This year, more students will take part in performances and setting up pavilions of different countries."

Dozens of foreign countries' embassies in Beijing will participate in the festival, setting up their independent pavilions.

At the same time, there will be cultural stage performances from different countries held at the open area of the Centennial Memorial Auditorium. The Food Fiesta will display sumptuous delights from

all different countries, bringing local delicacies right to the heart of the school.

Opening Ceremony

When: 9:30 am to 10:10 am

Where: Centennial Memorial Auditorium Square

Party and Performances

When: 10:10 am to 11:40 am, 2 pm to 3:30 pm

Where: Centennial Memorial Auditorium Square

The Talk between Ambassadors and Students

When: 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Where: Room 202, Centennial

Memorial Auditorium

Garden Party

When: 9 am to 4 pm

Where: Centennial Memorial Auditorium Square

Food Fiesta

When: 11:30 am to 12:30 am, 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Where: East of Centennial Memorial Auditorium Square

The Second International Students Singing Competition

When: 7 pm to 9 pm

Where: Multi-functional hall of the Centennial Memorial Auditorium

Designs of 300 percent



Works: function and beauty

It is common knowledge that Spanish designs are the best at combining function and beauty.

Capella mentioned that "chair" is another name for "design." "Each chair is an independent world, which has its own specialty. It is a combination of various materials and structural theories," he said. What's more, the appearance of chairs allows human beings to unveil their egos in a half-relaxed state. "We do most of our activities in a sitting position: working, eating, playing games, and reading. People are spending more and more time in chairs. All of this pushes the chair to center stage."

Javier Mariscal's chairs "Silla Tio Pepe" and "Silla Garriris" shock the audience with their lovely structure and considerate function. "Silla Tio Pepe" is formed into a gentleman's shape. The audience can pick out his figure and hat. Moustaches are used for hanging outfits when you sit down, considerate, isn't it? If you think "Silla Garriris" looks like Mickey Mouse, you are

right. The back part of the chair is carved into the two big ears of the lovely cartoon figure, and the four legs of the chair are wearing Mickey's typical shoes. "Silla Garriris" certainly honors the famous rodent with this piece.

The lamp is another magical design of human beings. People try to invent various ways to extend the daylight. Only after the lamp appeared did lighting technique take a giant leap forward. During the daytime, lamps are merely decorative objects, but at night, they turn into functional designs. Lamps may be the best proof that people can change natural laws.

"Lampara de sobremesa Gira" by three designers explains the extreme functionalism that can be used in a lamp. They made the bottom a dial, which can be twisted so that the bulb can go anywhere. The chimney of the lamp sticks directly to the bulb, which saves materials and collects light. In "Lampara de pie L'Escala" of 1982, you can see the lamp is positioned on a ladder. The ladder ensures the lamp's vertical structure and firm position. "Lampara Bib Luz Libro" by Oscar Tusquets in 1985 explains

A trip: mystery and circle

On the ground floor of the Beijing World Art Museum, you can choose either the right or left entrance to start your journey. You'll be inclined to take the right door.

A curved corridor unfolds at your feet. Look up and you suddenly see numerous posters, captured in delicate frames hanging alongside you. Elegant ladies, bearded men, knights, craftsmen, lions, horses, villages, you are entering a different world. Spanish artists are experienced at using bright colors – actually these posters are so bright, you may feel like they are burning your eyes. However, the lights in the corridor are dim, just enough to make the works look colorful and powerful.

A door on your left beckons you. You quickly forget the posters as you open it and step into a dark world. Actually, it is designed to be a dark room, as the works exhibited here are lamps. Each lamp is displayed in a separate cubicle, resembling those office workers honeycombed in high office towers. Some of the lamps are so delicately designed that you will definitely desire one on your nightstand to enhance the decor. Others shine like the sun and are found adorning the lobbies of luxurious hotels. A huge, glimmering wall is created by others. With these luminary beauties around, your world will never go dark again.

300% purity: design and art

Juli Capella, the curator of the exhibition, explained why it is referred to as 300 percent Spanish design, "It is known that no material can reach a purity of 300 percent. Pure gold? No, that falls between 99 and 100 percent. Three hundred percent is, of course, an exaggeration in praise of these works which take much time, energy, and hard work."

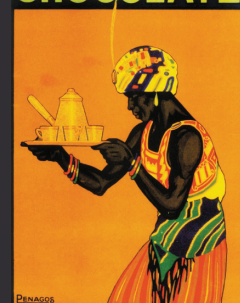
Of course, 100 chairs, 100 lamps and 100 posters does equal 300. "However, the number 300 doesn't just mean we have a large amount of exhibited works this time. It represents the works' superiority. They are Spain's significant contributions to world culture," the curator said. Chairs mean structure and comfort, lamps mean progress and magic, and posters, visual communication.

Spanish designs cover architecture, interiors, city, furniture,

Silla Garriris by Javier Mariscal

Silla PussyLawn by Luis Eslava

CHOCOLATE



AMATLLER

INSECTICID



CONTRA CUCARACHAS, CHIN

cent purity

By Gan Tian

300% Spanish Design came to Beijing near the end of the Spanish Year in China. A hundred chairs, 100 lamps and 100 posters from Cervantes's country were brought to the Beijing World Art Museum, all of which will alter your ideas with their special Spanish flavor of both beauty and function.

the functionalism even better. To solve the problem of library lighting, Tusquets put a bulb at the end of a thin thread, which gives the lamp more flexibility.

Posters are the earliest image designs. They have functions of advertising, but they also provide human beings a way to express themselves.

In "Chocolate Amatller-Marca Luna" by Rafael De Penagos, you can see a black lady holding a tray. The letters "Chocolate" at the top of the poster show that she is serving hot chocolate to her master. At a superficial level, you know the quality of this chocolate is good by noticing that the black lady's bare arms and neck are very sexy. However, also note that this poster was made in 1910, which reveals more information about this projected scenario. At that time, chocolate was very rare. Only people of high class could enjoy it. You can see the lady's loyalty to her master from her sincere facial expression. It makes you realize how luxurious it was to enjoy chocolate at that time - they needed golden trays and cups to serve the rare beverage as well as servants, and they made posters about the privilege.

Walking out the back door of this lamp room, there is still evidence of more posters hanging to your right. In the distance there is another room on your left. Now your attention is drawn completely to one theme, chairs and plenty of them. A hundred chairs, in different styles and materials, are positioned in three rows in the room. You see a Mickey Mouse chair, a Gentleman's chair, and those very special delicate chairs upon which you wouldn't dare seat yourself.

At last, you unseat yourself and exit the room of chairs. A small lobby appears in front of you, where a chair comprised of two red lips is placed at your feet. You are delighted and recognize it immediately. It is Dali's famous Red Lip Sofa. You suddenly understand the spirit of Spanish design, functional, colorful and passionate.

And, as the corridor ends, so do the posters. Amazingly, you are leaving through the same door you first entered at the beginning of your journey! You've made a complete circle! You now notice, the posters are hung in chronological order starting with a 2005 piece, "Year of design, everywhere" by Claret Serrahima. You will feel the clock turning counter-clockwise as you end your stroll at the earliest poster, "Pel & Ploma" by Ramon Casas dated 1900. That means, if you start from the left door, you can travel the time-plane and experience a chronicle art trip!

electric equipment, but why does this exhibition spotlight only chairs, lamps and posters? "We don't want to give you an exhibition resembling a 'department store,'" the curator said, "We have chosen three things closely related to people's daily lives that serve us every day. Their existence goes beyond more than just mere objects. They have become personal."

Walking along the corridor, visitors may think there is a big, dark story hidden in each of these posters. Spanish designs are like Spanish people. They are always trying to be mysterious like gypsy ladies. Mystery is a large part of their attractiveness.

Spanish designs are influenced deeply by the art in the country. The art history in Iberico Peninsula can date back thousands of years. Many world famous artists' spirits, or even their own works, are appearing in this design exhibition: Velazquez, Goya, El Greco, Julio Gonzalez, Miro, Gris, Picasso, Dali and Tapies, for example.



From left to right:

1. Chocolate Amatller - Marca Luna by Rafael de Penagos
2. Insecticida ZZ by Autor Desconocido
3. Las Arenas by Josep Renau

Photos by SEACEX



300% Spanish Design

Where: Beijing World Art Museum, A9 Fuxing Lu, Haidian

When: 9am-5:30pm, September 22 to November 10

Admission: 30 yuan

Tel: 5980 2222



Lámpara Mitzy by King & Miranda Design



Lámpara de pie L'Escala by Estudi Blanc



Lámpara de sobremesa Gira by Josep M. Masana, Mariano Ferrer and Josep M. Tremoleda



Lámpara de pie Alta Costura L by Josep Aregall

Eyes on Doris Lessing



CFP Photo

Doris Lessing was born Doris May Taylor in Persia (now Iran) on October 22, 1919. Both of her parents were British: Her father, crippled in World War I, was a clerk in the Imperial Bank of Persia; her mother was a nurse. In 1925, lured by the promise of wealth, the family moved to the British colony in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). Her mother enrolled Doris in a covenant school, and later in an all-girls high school in Salisbury, from which she dropped out. Her formal education ended at age 13.

By He Jianwei

Last Thursday, British author Doris Lessing took this year's Nobel Prize for Literature. Lessing is best known for her 1962 post-modern feminist masterpiece *The Golden Notebook*.

The Swedish academy described Lessing as an "epicist of the female experience, who with skepticism, fire and visionary power has subjected a divided civilization to scrutiny." It singled out *The Golden Notebook* for praise, calling it "a pioneering work" that "belongs to the handful of books that informed the 20th century view of the male-female relationship."

In response to her award, Yilin Press and the Shanghai Translation Publishing House will reprint her Chinese edition books during the next few months. Yilin Press published Lessing's *The Grass is Singing* in 1999 and *The Golden Notebook* in 2003. Shanghai Translation Publishing House published *Love Again* in 2001.

Lessing's books are not bestsellers in China, so few

Chinese readers had heard of her before she won the prize. Her most popular book here is *Notebook*, loved by some for its fascinating structure and hated by others for its obscure content.

"Lessing's books are a little bit hard to understand, so maybe that's why they are not popular in China," Yao Chang, an editor, said.

Before he bought *Notebook*, Yao read Lessing's books of African stories about South Africa in 1950s and 1970s. Those books cover interracial love and the country's social and political background. "I loved the stories she told before, so when I encountered *The Golden Notebook* in the bookshop, I bought it without hesitation," he said.

He took a week to finish the book and read three hours per night. "Although it is a good book when you examine the writing and story structure, I was still confused about what the writer was trying to express until I read the summary at the end," he said.

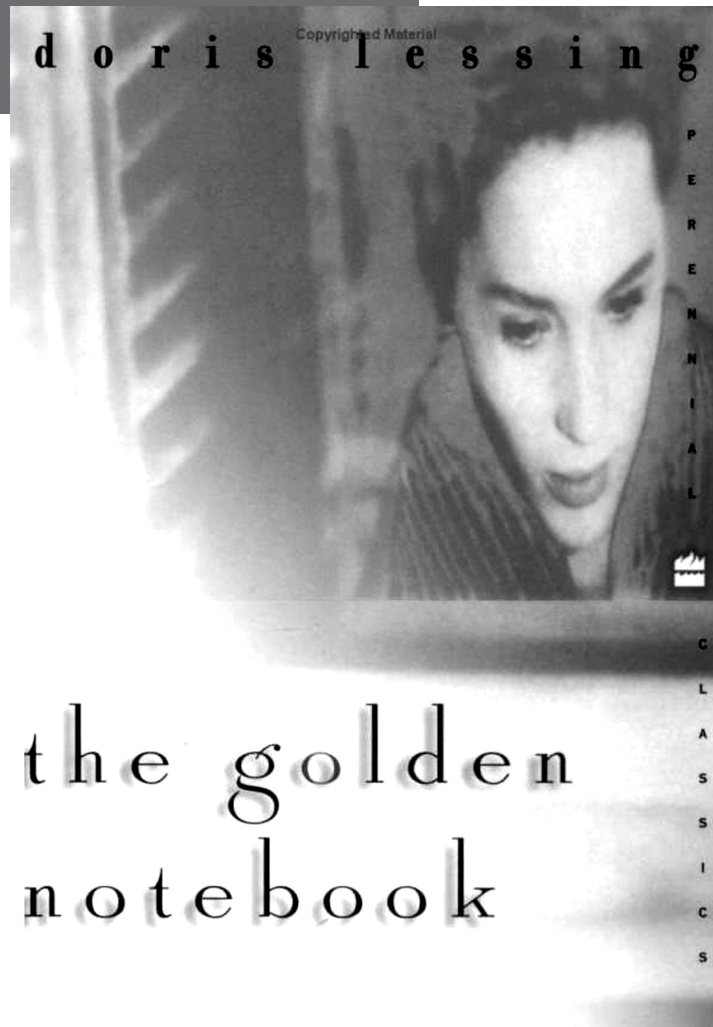
"Maybe I need to read it

again to get a clearer understanding, but how many readers would like to re-read a book with over 700 pages?" he asked.

Qi Yue, a finance worker, strongly recommends Lessing's *Notebook*. "The structure of this book is so fascinating that the readers can read it in any order," she said.

Anna Wulf, author of one successful novel, now keeps four notebooks. In her black one, she reviews the African experience of her earlier years. In her red one, she records her political life. In her yellow one, she writes a novel in which the heroine relives part of her own experience. In her blue one, she keeps a personal diary. In love with an American writer and threatened with insanity, Anna tries to bring the threads of all four books together in a golden notebook.

"I read the part about the yellow notebook in my own order. The description of Wulf's psychological movements is vivid in this part and really drew my attention," she said.



Sound and the City

Another side of the concrete jungle

By Jackie Zhang

It's been a long time since I heard the cooing of pigeons in Beijing. Instead, I hear the blasting of car horns and the din of construction, now blocking out the hawkers in hutons and crickets at night.

The sounds that old Beijingers are used to seem to no longer be part of the city.

To observe and understand a city through its sounds may sound new and incredible, but it's a nice way to probe its history and remember what has been lost in the scramble for social development.

Sound and the City is an anthology recording a multifaceted sound art project conceived by the British Council and realized across China between 2005 and 2006. Seven key British sound artists – Brian Eno, David Toop, Peter Cusack, Clive Bell, Scanner, Kaffe Matthews and Robert Jarvis – were invited to work in the civic sound environments of Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing and Guangzhou.

The book contains essays



from both Chinese and British critics, and the stories of the participating artists' activities.

The project culminated in a series of lectures and concerts in the four cities. In a greater sense, it has also spawned the commissioning of new work from artists chosen for their deep interest in the relationship between music and ambient sound.

"Asking musicians to approach a problem in a setting where none of them could feel comfortable could

force a change in their habits or patterns. This is the essence of the project," Colin Chinnery, chief curator of Ullens Center for the Arts and former arts manager from British Council, said.

Chinnery British Council member in charge of seeing the event through, "The beauty of experimental projects is the unexpected results. Although it's almost impossible to gauge just how many people got exactly what experience from the sound projects themselves, the ideas contained within those projects caught the publics' imagination."

"I hope that the publication of the book can ... make people pay attention to the noise around them," Yan Jun, editor of the book and chief organizer of Sound and the City, said.

Yan said sound art is still in its infancy in China, but attracts artists and appreciators overseas.

"The project was a success. I hope the book can draw more attention to sound art in the future," Yan said.

Timezone 8 book listing

Timezone 8 Limited is a Hong Kong-based publisher, distributor and retailer of books on contemporary art,

architecture, photography and design. This week, it lists its three top-selling photography books for *Beijing Today* readers.

Things as They Are

By Christian Cujolle and Mary Panzer, 384pp, Aperture, 675 yuan

This book presents a story of photojournalism collected over 50 years: from 1955 until today. It takes covers from the golden era of the illustrated press-the heyday of Life and Picture Post magazines and the moment of The Museum of Modern Art's defining Family of Man exhibition-to the explosion of digital media in the twenty-first century.

Gianni Berengo Gardin

By Gianni Berengo Gardin, 439pp, Contrasto, 600 yuan

This book is the most comprehensive collection of his images ever made. Besides conversations with Goffredo Fofi

and Frank Horvat, it contains a self-annotated bio-bibliography. Born in 1930, Gardin devoted himself to photography from a young age. His pictures feature a deep humanity tinged with irony that turned him into one of the most significant recorders of contemporary society.

As I See It

By Elton John, Greg Gorman and John Hurt, 288pp, powerhouse Books, 285 yuan

Internationally acclaimed photographer Greg Gorman has completed his latest

work: the male figure study. Twenty years in the making, this epic artist's project features carefully-selected young men-not big or overly built-who exemplify for Gorman a perfected state to frame grace, beauty and elegance in the form of the male nude.

(By He Jianwei)

By He Jianwei

This July, the new group-turned-brand GreenShare was one of the top draws at Shenzhen's Creative Market. The group, founded by Liu Rui, is devoted to sharing new and creative ideas for using Polaroid's instamatic cameras. With the growth of the group, Liu has shifted focus to making products for Polaroid enthusiasts.

From Polaroid to GreenShare

Polaroid has become part of Liu's life. She likes traveling and recording her journeys using many sizes of Polaroid film. "The moment I press the shutter, I feel very connected to the world I'm capturing. Thanks to Polaroid, I've made a lot of friends who also share a special relationship with their subjects," Liu said.

She loves discussing common interests with people, and GreenShare was the natural answer to how to expand her network. "I named it GreenShare because I want to express a meaning of 'fresh and free.' It's a way to freely share fresh ideas," Liu said.

In Chinese, her group is named Ge Lin She, which resembles the name of the Brothers Grimm, authors of the famous fairy tale collection. "GreenShare is a group full of new ideas, just like how anything is possible in fairy tales," she said.

"Everyone who loves life itself will derive inspiration from others' experience and share his or her new ideas," she said.

Polaroid is the cornerstone of GreenShare. "You can only take one photo at a time with Polaroid cameras. The process teaches users to cherish the moment. If you have a good idea for life, don't hesitate to make it come true," she said.

Liu hopes people can take life at a slower pace. "When people take it slow, it is easier to catch and share fresh ideas," she said.

The July debut of GreenShare is something Liu said she hopes will connect the group with ordinary people, especially in Shenzhen where the cameras remain obscure.

Birds of a feather

Some designers have joined the group, and Liu is continually trying to recruit new talent. "If I find some interesting designs, I try to contact the designers; if I have new ideas, I try to find a designer who is willing to cooperate with me in developing them," she said.

Liu and the designers have become friends through their common interest in Polaroid photography. "GreenShare is not a static group, but is more like a platform for designers to focus on new developments in the Polaroid product line," she said.

The designers hail from all over China, including Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Shanghai.

Products

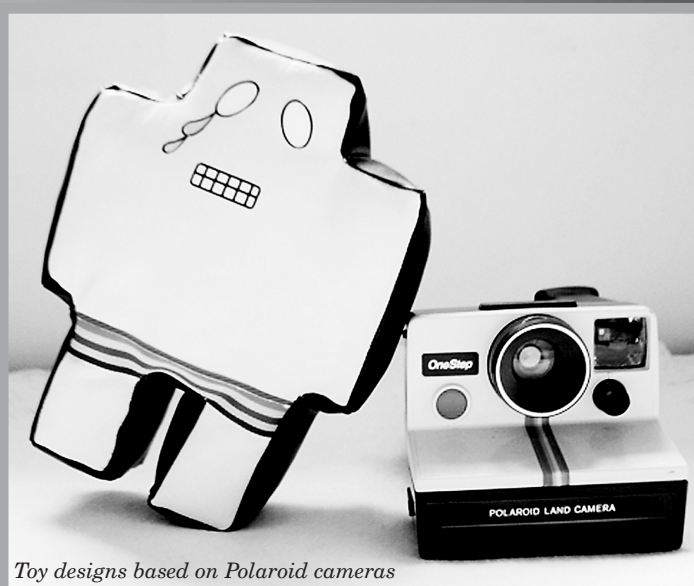
GreenShare's products are all related to Polaroid photos. One example is designer Chen Qi's environmentally-friendly canvas bag with drawings of a Polaroid camera and Chinese elements.

Only 50 of Chen's bags were produced. "The bag contains a smaller tote designed specifically for carrying a Polaroid SX-70 or a Polaroid One Step (Rainbow)," she said.

Chen Qi has also made different toys to match different Polaroid camera sizes. Liang Fan, a designer from Guangzhou, makes T-shirts with patterns based on Polaroid cameras. Liu herself has made a series of postcards based on her own photography.

All the group's products will be produced in their Beijing-based factory. "It's convenient for me to supervise the quality of our products, and I can communicate with the designers via Internet or phone," Liu said.

The group also produces albums for storing Polaroid prints and stickers for Polaroid fans.



Toy designs based on Polaroid cameras

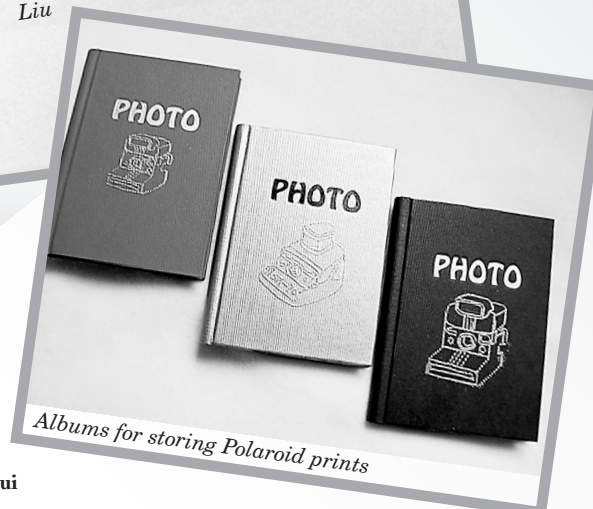
Capturing creativity in an instant



Liu Rui at Shenzhen's Creative Market



Postcards featuring Liu Rui's Polaroid prints



Albums for storing Polaroid prints

Photos provided by Liu Rui

Where time passes you by



Illustration by Wang Bin

By Gan Tian

"You are arriving at Chunxiu Lu. Please exit by the backdoor."

Every time I hear this announcement, I feel like I am sitting in an old-fashioned bus, and I can hear my heart speaking to me.

I especially love the street's name, "Chunxiu Lu," literally translated as Graceful Spring Road. It paints a picture of beautiful and delicate scenery in Southern China where I grew up. Sometimes when I was strolling under the shadows of the trees, sunshine penetrating the leaves, the light

warmed my heart.

You can have many mixed feelings here. No matter if you are enjoying a traditional Thai massage or dining at the Tibetan Rose Restaurant, you will always experience the calm and tranquility found in the surroundings.

Though located in the downtown, Chunxiu Lu is untouched by the commercialization of its neighbors. Whenever you feel tired, you can always find peace here. As you relax, holding a cup of coffee under the trees, you can feel time passing you by.

Continued on page 17 ...

...continued from page 16



Photo provided by The Olive

Beijing's best green cuisine

By Gan Tian

The Olive has been in business since March 2005, and since then has been the capital's must-visit green cafe and restaurant for light and healthy food.

Just past the north gate of Worker's Stadium you can find a bunch of green logos hanging from the first floor of an opposite building. Those green logos mark The Olive. The cafe has an outdoor corridor with a view of the noisy street, and also a back garden where you can enjoy some peace and quiet.

No matter which location you choose, you can still soak in the sunshine.

All the dishes are light and full of vegetables and fruit. For a starter, try the Crisp Asian pear with a peppery rocket, watercress, candied walnuts and feta cheese for only 40 yuan.

The restaurant doesn't hide the meat on its menu – it just makes it healthy. One main course to try is the charcoal-grilled beef medallion on sour cream and potato puree priced at 80 yuan. Stuffed chicken breast with mushroom sauce at 65 yuan is another great choice. The dish is lightly cooked chicken in a slightly sweet sauce.

Some of the best desserts are dense bitter chocolate and espresso cake and Tiramisu, both less than 30 yuan. Visit The Olive to see what is "healthy chocolate."

The menu changes seasonally to serve summer and winter tastes.

Many girls worried about their figures stop by here. It's also a good place for mothers-to-be, because the foods here have little impact on pregnancy. It's a nice break from the polluted outdoors.

The Olive

Where: 17, Gongti Bei Lu, opposite the north gate of Worker's Stadium, Chaoyang

Open: 10am-10pm

Tel: 6417 9669



Photo provided by Bodhi Therapeutic Retreat

Care for your body

By Gan Tian

How the Bodhi Therapeutic Retreat came about is quite a romantic story. In October 2003, Michelle Hemsin, the owner, ran a spa in Shanghai. Her far away boyfriend in Beijing couldn't bear missing her, so he asked her to start a business here.

The Retreat focuses on the middle-class market, so the price isn't as staggering as in other spas. However, unlike your regular 50-yuan massage parlors, this place offers a professional retreat guaranteed to service your whole body.

Michelle hired nine Thai technicians to ensure the spa offers a genuine Thai massage service. The "Traditional Thai Massage," a 90 minute session priced at 238 yuan, uses no oil. The technician uses hands, thumbs, elbows, knees and feet to concentrate on the body's pressure points and unclog energy channels. It can relieve pain and muscle tension and increase flexibility through passive yoga postures. Traditional Thai massage can be a bit painful, but it is very refreshing.

The spa's specials vary seasonally. A winter "Back Bliss" runs 90 minutes and costs 350 yuan. It begins with a full body aromatherapy massage, and is followed by a mild back scrub and a deep massage to stimulate tired and sore muscles. After that comes the most amazing part – warm paraffin is layered onto the back for tension relief and optimum moisture absorption. Paraffin contains rich Vitamin E, so it's good for your skin.

The Retreat has different membership programs. If you buy a card with a 5,000 yuan deposit, you can enjoy a much-reduced price. A 200-yuan card offers discounts on various services.

The name "Bodhi" is a play on the word "body" written in a more Eastern spelling. Like its name, the spa combines East and West spa styles.

Bodhi Therapeutic Retreat

Where: 17, Gongti Bei Lu, opposite to the north gate of Worker's Stadium, Chaoyang

Open: 11:30am-12:30am next day

Tel: 6417 9595

Hunting for Chinese antique furniture

By Huang Daohen

If you are interested in Chinese antique furniture and reproduction, the Flame Tree is a place you should visit on a lazy afternoon.

Located in the center of the CBD, the 50-square-meter shop is filled with gilded chairs, ornate commodes and wardrobes with inlay, once common amongst wealthy and noble families.

At the Flame Tree, there are two kinds of furniture: one is original antique furniture bought from some local families; the other, reproductions with colored drawings. "Still, all of the furniture is handmade," said Miao Zhi, who is in charge of the shop's sales, "We have a factory in the suburbs and the original furniture purchased will be reproduced there. The inlay, for example, is done by hand."

For collectors who want to buy authentic Chinese antique furniture in Beijing, Miao said, the first thing to note is that Beijing does not necessarily offer the most reasonable prices. However, the price at the Flame Tree is comparatively lower due to the boss's sole ownership of the shop saving rental fees.

The boss, according to Miao, is a fan of collecting antique furniture. "We have two goals in operating the shop, earning money and making friends of antique furniture collectors," she added.

In addition to antique furniture, the shop also offers handcrafted sterling accessories. You'll be delighted by the varied accessory collection, including silver rings, hair clips, necklaces, talismans, and charming belts.

In the Flame Tree, handcrafted accessories are more than just practical; they are also beautiful. "Our hand-made jewelry collection provides authentic pieces that are well crafted for style and uniqueness," Miao said.

Besides, the shop offers a "self-making" service to turn your own personal design into reality. If you have your own unique design, just present it and the shop will do the rest.

Flame Tree

Where: opposite to the north gate of the Worker's Stadium

Open: 10:30am-10:30pm

Tel: 6413 0828

Photo provided by Flame Tree



Continued on page 18 ...

...continued from page 17

Caribbean breeze in the capital

By Gan Tian

The A-Che bar and restaurant is like a snapshot of Caribbean life: beach, sunshine, beauties, bikinis and music. Che Guevara, a symbol of revolutionary spirit, lives on at this bar.

Creole cuisine makes up the bulk of Caribbean food. Classic Saffron Seafood Paella (100 yuan) is especially recommended. It's a combination of rice, chicken, meat and seasonings, and is accepted easily by both Chinese and Western diners. Shrimp Creole (98 yuan) and Grilled Red Snapper (68 yuan) are great for seafood lovers. The Uruguay Steak (78 yuan) is a meatier choice.

A-Che offers as many as 50 kinds of cocktails. "You can't find these in other pubs," Sheng Taotao, the restaurant owner, said. "I got these recipes directly from Cuba." Their cocktail list has many selections for anyone with a taste for mixed spirits.

Sheng said A-Che will offer a special Christmas Creole Set for the holidays, so head to her bar for a Caribbean Christmas.

A-Che bar and restaurant

Where: F/1, Gangwan Guoji, No 28, Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

Tel: 6427 2201, 6417 7488 (Chinese, English and Spanish)

Open: 11am-2am next day

Cost: 100 yuan per person



Photo provided by A-Che bar and restaurant

Italian hot pizzas under O Sole Mio

By Jiang Xubo

O Sole Mio, an Italian food restaurant, is by no means large. Although located at Xingfucun Zhonglu, in the capital's busy international area between Dongzhimen and Sanlitun, O Sole Mio retains the air of a local restaurant.

The restaurant offers a standard range of Italian dishes, including spaghetti with chili peppers, garlic and olive oil, pizza with pepperoni and green peppers, and pizza with ham, mushrooms, black olives and artichokes as the most popular dishes. What's more, all dishes are freshly prepared. However, the rucola salad and the Tiramisu are also worth at least one try.

Whether dining inside in the tastefully decorated cozy restaurant or outside on the patio terrace, there's a certain intimacy to O Sole Mio which first-timers can't help but notice.

It was about four o'clock in the afternoon in early autumn. A few people, mostly foreigners, were enjoying their meals on the sun-baked terrace, chatting and laughing gently. In contrast to its cold black-and-white logo above the gate, the restaurant, with scarlet sofas and milky white tablecloths, was much more flamboyant inside, especially when the sun's rays poured in through the windows.

Andy Zhao, the restaurant manager, opened the restaurant in 2005. Yet, it seems that during that short span of time, he has developed intimate friendships with most of his guests. Our brief talk on the terrace was interrupted several times by customers just stopping to say hello to Andy.

"Almost all people, who come to my place, are repeat customers," Andy, a young man from nearby Hebei Province, said with pride.

The majority of clients, who stay in nearby communities, come from European countries like the UK and France. Yet the friendly staff, mostly boys in tidy black suits, spoke quite good English, helping to recreate a family atmosphere for Chinese and foreign guests alike.

Though tiny and nothing flashy, the restaurant makes a perfect place for parties of about 30 people. A block booking costs around 3,000 yuan, but make sure you reserve at least one week in advance. And O Sole Mio offers a free delivery service to those living in the area.

O Sole Mio

Where: Just Make Building, Xingfu Zhonglu, Chaoyang

Open: 11am-2 am the next day

Cost: 80 yuan per person

Tel: 6417 7022



Photo provided by Purple Haze

A dig for wi-fi, books and Thai cuisine

By Huang Daoheng

Thai food is one of the most scintillating dining experiences in the world, and at Purple Haze, a Thai Restaurant and bar, you'll find all of your mouth-watering favorites from Tom Yum soup to Green Curry chicken.

Purple Haze, opposite the Worker's Stadium North Gate, serves mainly Thai food and other creative South-East Asian Food. Featuring a relaxed and comfortable environment, the interior is very customer-friendly and makes every visit a cozy and unforgettable experience.

At Purple Haze, one suggestion from the boss, Ren, is to try the chicken and pumpkin red curry which requires plenty of steamed rice to soak up the coconut sauce. It is often a good idea to book in advance, though the pleasant cocktails, like peach and gin, make any wait pass quickly.

The restaurant also offers free wireless Internet access, making it an ideal location for your offline work. In addition, there are thousands of books in numerous languages, covering a wide range of topics which customers are free to read and browse while visiting.

The library is especially appreciated in the afternoon,

when you can enjoy the sunshine sipping a cup of coffee as you work, or just relaxing with a book.

Of course the food is the main reason to visit Purple Haze, but it's also an excellent venue for socializing. It has a daily Happy Hour, from 5 pm to 7 pm, offering two drinks for the price of one, as well as a late night special with guests enjoying some tasty cocktails.

The venue and bar also host a big bar section and a live jazz band every Wednesday. It has become a popular place for activities, parties, presentations and different activities for both corporate and private guests.

Given its runaway success, Purple Haze will open its new location next to Hou Xiandaicheng. The owner kept the purple theme: wi-fi, books and the Thai cuisine in the new digs, and added a cozy upstairs section for more intimate meals.

Purple Haze

Where: opposite to the north gate of the Worker's Stadium

Open: 10 am-10 pm

Tel: 8774 6387



Photo by Paul Yuan

Continued on page 19 ...

...continued from page 18

A-Che

This bar aims to be a Cuban restaurant and cafe.

Where: 28, Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng

Open: 11:30am-1am next day
Tel: 6417 2201

Alfa

Party animals of the 80s gather here to share their music.

Where: 5, Xingfu Yicun, Chaoyang
Open: 5pm-2am next day
Tel: 6413 0086

April Gourmet

A great source for imported cold cuts and cheese.

Where: F1, Jiezu Dasha, Xingfucun Zhonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 8am-9pm
Tel: 6417 7970

Ashandi

The Spanish cuisine offered is very special.

Where: 168, Xinzhongjie, Chaoyang
Open: 11:30am-2pm, 6pm-11pm
Tel: 6416 6231

Boucherie Michel

The beef, veal, lamb and pork here are very popular.

Where: F1, Jiezu Dasha, 55, Xingfucun Zhonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 9am-8:30pm
Tel: 6417 0489

Bodhi Therapeutic Retreat

Performs traditional Thai massage, Chinese massage and foot and body massage.

Where: 17, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-12:30am next day
Tel: 6417 9595

Bronze Bodies Tanning Club

Provides body bronzing treatments and a selection of self-tanning products.

Where: F6, Bodhi Therapeutic Retreat, 17, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 11:30am-12:30am next day
Tel: 6413 1180

Bus Bar

This bar offers dirt-cheap drinks and a scruffy atmosphere.

Where: edge of the parking lot across from the north gate of Worker's Stadium
Open: 12:30pm-2am next day

Chingari

Its southeast Asian food is very famous.

Where: F4, 27, Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng
Open: 10am-10:30pm
Tel: 8448 3690

Dara

The trendy expat-favorite design shop sells furniture, antique accessories, dishware and more.

Where: 17 Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 9:30am-8pm
Tel: 6417 9365

ES Lifestyle

A place for hair removal and skin rejuvenation.

Where: Room C, F2, Estoril Court, 9, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 9:30am-10pm
Tel: 6415 5230

Feiteng Yuxiang

The best Sichuan food around - enjoy their famous Shuizhuyu.

Where: 4 Xiang, 35 Xingfu Yicun, 1, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-2:30pm, 4:30pm-10pm
Tel: 6415 3764

Flame Tree

It stocks handmade silver accessories and painted wooden furniture and boxes.

Where: 7, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 10am-10:30pm
Tel: 6413 0828

Gesanmedo

The Tibetan food and environment will excite you.

Where: F2, Xingfu'ercun, Shangye Building, Xindonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-midnight
Tel: 6417 9269

Han Na Shan

The most popular Korean barbecue in town.

Where: 11A, Chunxiulu, Chaoyang
Open: 10am-11pm
Tel: 6417 8377

Heyan'er

Come here for traditional tunics, dresses and trousers.

Where: 12, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 9am-10:30pm
Tel: 6415 9442

High Society

A popular spot for hearing local jazz performers.

Where: F1, Jiezu Dasha, 55, Xingfucun Zhonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 11:30am-2am next day
Tel: 6417 9780

Lao Han Zi

The fish and salty shrimp comes highly recommended.

Where: F1, Jiezu Dasha, 57 Xingfucun Zhonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-11pm
Tel: 6417 7720

Lau Pa Sak

The outlet caters to Singaporean style and tastes.

Where: Xindonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-11pm
Tel: 6417 0952

Len Len

The cool Japanese food is very special.

Where: F1, Zimang Dasha, 12B, Xinzhongjie, Dongcheng
Open: 6pm-2am next day
Tel: 6415 6415

Mare

Spanish and English dishes are sold.

Where: 13, Xindonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-midnight
Tel: 6417 1459

Morel's

Enjoy beef and seafood in typical Belgian dishes.

Where: Gongti Bei Lu, opposite the north gate of Worker's Gymnasium, northwest corner of Chunxiulu, Chaoyang
Open: 10:30am-1am next day
Tel: 6416 8802

Nanjie

Students gather here for the 10-yuan drinks.

Where: Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 6pm-3am next day
Tel: 6413 0963

O Sole Mio

The pizza and pasta have made this Italian standard restaurant famous.

Where: Jiezu Dasha, 55, Xingfucun Zhonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 10am-10:30pm
Tel: 6417 7022

Pizza Hut

There's nothing more to say about this famous pizza chain.

Where: 27, Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng
Open: 10am-10pm
Tel: 6465 2976

Purple Haze

The Thai cuisine comes with books, coffee and wi-fi.

Where: hutong across from north gate of Worker's Stadium, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-10pm
Tel: 8774 6387

Red Ball

The open-air environment is a joy during warm weather.

Where: Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 9:30am-11pm
Tel: 6413 2848

Red House

Belly-dancers perform in this restaurant.

Where: 7, Xingfu Yicun Alley, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-11pm
Tel: 6415 5741

Red Rose

Come for the Tibetan food, stay for the music.

Where: Inside 7, Xinfu Yicun, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-11pm
Tel: 6415 5741

Snack China

Shaanxi food is the cuisine of choice.

The province which is famous for its snacks, not to be confused with Shanxi. Try local snacks like Saozi Mian or Paomo.

Where: Chunxiulu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-3am next day
Tel: 6417 9617

The Olive

The salads and sandwiches sold are tossed with olive oil and extremely healthy.

Where: 17, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 10am-10:30pm
Tel: 6417 9669

Tian Shan Pai

Serves Russian and Central Asian cuisine.

Where: 7, Chunxiulu, Dongcheng
Open: 10am-10pm
Tel: 6416 8831

Village33

Located at Xingfucun No 33, this pub offers and amazing night with music and disco.

Where: 33, Xingfucun, Xindonglu, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-11am
Tel: 6413 0589

W Dine&Wine

Swedish ping-pong champion Jan Ove Waldner opened this extremely Swedish place.

Where: 22-1, Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng
Open: 11:30am-10:30pm
Tel: 6416 9838

Yoga Yard

The two classrooms offer specialized classes like prenatal and postnatal yoga.

Where: F6, 17 Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 8am-8pm
Tel: 6413 0774

Yugong Yishan

Some of the most popular DJ, rock and jazz acts are staged in Yugong Yishan.

Where: 1, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 6pm-2am next day
Tel: 6415 0687

Yu Xin

Another famous Sichuan food restaurant. Come see why Sichuan food is so popular.

Where: 5A, Xingfu Yicun Xili, Chaoyang
Open: 11am-10pm
Tel: 6415 8168

Wuqiao, hometown of acrobatics



Jianghu Culture City

By Jackie Zhang

Wuqiao County in Hebei Province is regarded as the hometown of acrobatics in China, and the acrobatics cradle of the world.

Next Thursday, the 11th China Wuqiao International Circus Festival will be held in Shijiazhuang, capital of Hebei, and will run for 11

days. For this 20th anniversary of the festival, 25 groups from 16 countries and regions will come to participate.

The festival is a great time to see Wuqiao and Shijiazhuang, which is two hours away. The evening circus performances are a must see.

Origins

Since its establishment in 1987, the China Wuqiao International Circus Festival has been held every two years. It has grown to become a world-renowned oriental acrobatics act.

Local people have a tradition of acrobatics. The city used to be famous for its temple fairs, or *miaohui*. Temples and nunneries used to be everywhere in Wuqiao. The fairs provided a good stage for circus performances and acrobatics to become popular with the people, eventually becoming a traditional activity.

At present, China Wuqiao International Circus Festival is one of the three most famous circus festivals in the world. The other two are Paris Tomorrow and the Future International Circus Festival and Monte Carlo International Circus Festival held in France and Monaco.

Circus World

Wuqiao Circus World is the biggest tourism resort in northern China, established jointly by the Wuqiao municipal government and China International Travel Service Hong Kong Ltd. It's the best place to learn everything about acrobatics.

Jianghu Cultural City

Located in the central area of Wuqiao Circus World, its architecture follows Ming and Qing styles. The true man performance is reminiscent of Tianqiao in Beijing, and qigong, operas and circus performances are included.

Circus Palace

This place shows the history of circus, especially the circus in China, its history and its masters. You can see what the acrobatic performances of ancient times looked like and pictures of old

temple fairs.

Jocularity zoo

The animals in this zoo are different from those found in cities. All the animals here have been carefully domesticated. The elephants massage themselves, the gorillas play with balls, the tigers ride horses, the monkeys walk tightropes and the bears play with swords. It's a chance to interact with the animal performers.

Festival

To celebrate the 20th anniversary, this year's festival will include several plaza performances, exhibitions and competitions. As many as 14 famous international circus professionals have been invited to act as judges.

"We have more judges than ever before, with twelve international judges," Zhao, director of the organizing committee, said "There will be high-level acrobatic performances during the opening ceremony. We are having groups come in from Russia, Canada, the US, France, Germany, Australia

and Italy."

A big parade is scheduled for next weekend. Cars will be decorated for the 20th anniversary theme. "We've never organized a parade for the festival before, so this is really one of the anniversary highlights," Zhao said. "The Gold Lion Prize has a special place in the world of acrobatics. All the countries will be competing their hardest to take it."

Five large scale circus shows will be presented during the festival, as well as four professional competitions. The country to be awarded the Golden Lion Prize will be announced on the last day.

Main activities

Circus Tent Special Show

Where: Shiji Hotel, 145, Zhongshan Xi Lu, Shijiazhuang

When: 7:30 pm,

October 25 to November 4

Circus Parade

Where: Main streets in Shijiazhuang

When: 10 am, October 27 to November 4

Opening Ceremony and Comprehensive Performances

Where: Main hall of Hebei Arts Center, 10, Hongguang Street, Xinhua Xi Lu, Shijiazhuang

When: 8pm, October 27

Special Performances

Where: Main hall of Hebei Arts Center, 10, Hongguang Street, Xinhua Xi Lu, Shijiazhuang

When: 7:30pm, October 28 to October 30

Competition

Where: Main hall of Hebei Arts Center, 10, Hongguang Street, Xinhua Xi Lu, Shijiazhuang

When: 7:30 pm, October 31 to November 3

Transportation

Get to Wuqiao

There are regular coaches from Beijing to Wuqiao every morning at Zhaogongkou bus station on South Third Ring Road. You can also take trains to get there. If you drive on your own, it will take you four hours, driving along the Jinghu Express Way or National Road 106.

From Wuqiao to Shijiazhuang

You can board coaches to different cities including Shijiazhuang and Beijing at the Cangzhou bus station at Xinhua Road.

Accommodations

In Wuqiao

Wuqiao Acrobatics Hotel

Where: 1, Jingfu Road, Sangyuan Town, Wuqiao County, Cangzhou City

Tel: 0317-7362 307

Baisheng Zhuangyuan Holiday Hotel

Where: 9, Taihangdao Road, Wuqiao County, Cangzhou City

Tel: 0317-7365 888

In Shijiazhuang

Jingu Plaza

Where: 37, Ziqiang Road, Shijiazhuang

Tel: 0311-7028 877

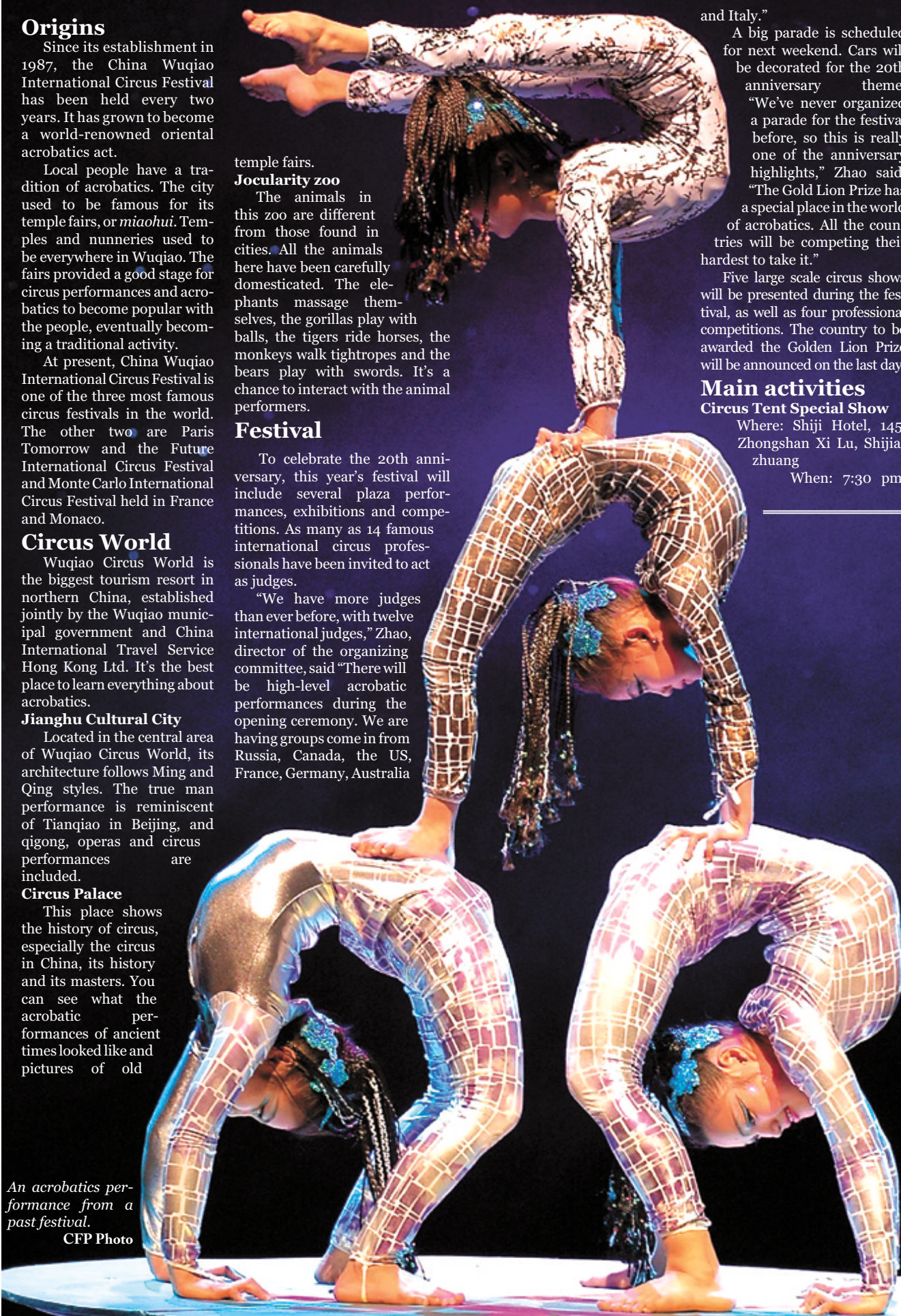
Shiji Hotel

Where: 145, Zhongshan Xi Road, Shijiazhuang

Tel: 0311-8703 6699

An acrobatics performance from a past festival.

CFP Photo



至尚
至美
健興利



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佛山：(0757) 8128 7193 揭阳：(0663) 8831 631


健興利
KIN HING LEE

Good Will Hunting

(1997)

Synopsis: Will Hunting is a genius living a rough life in South Boston. While working at a prestigious college in Boston, he's discovered by a Fields Medal winning Professor who eventually tries to get Will to turn his life around with the help of Sean Maguire. Will begins to realize that there's more to himself than he thinks there is.



Scene 1

(Set in a bar at Harvard University. Will Hunting is with his three best friends. While Chuckie Sullivan tries to obtain the addresses of two beautiful Harvard women, he is challenged by another

Harvard fellow named Clark. Will steps up and challenges Clark, embarrassing him with his wit and obvious superior intelligence. It's the first time Will has displayed his intellectual powers.)

Chuckie: All right, are we gonna have a problem?

Clark: There's no problem. I was just hoping you could give me some insight into the evolution of the market economy in the early colonies. My contention is that prior to the Revolutionary War, the economic modalities especially of the southern colonies could most aptly be characterized as agrarian pre-capitalist and ...

(Will, who at this point has taken Chuckie's side and is completely fed-up⁽⁴⁾, joins in the conversation.)

Will: Of course, that's your contention. You're a first year grad student. You just finished some Marxian historian, Pete Garrison prob'ly, and so naturally that's what you believe until next month when you get to James Lemon and become convinced that Virginia and Pennsylvania were strongly entrepreneurial and capitalist back in 1740. That'll last until sometime in your second year, then you'll be in here regurgitating⁽⁵⁾ Gordon Wood on the Pre-revolutionary utopia and the capital-forming effects of military mobilization.

Clark: (taken aback) Well, as a matter of fact, I won't, because Wood drastically underestimates⁽⁶⁾ the impact of ...

Will: "Wood drastically underestimates the impact of social distinctions predicated upon wealth, especially inherited wealth." You got that from *Work in Essex County*, Page

421, right?

Do you have any thoughts of your own on the subject or were you just gonna plagerize⁽⁴⁾ the whole book for us?

Will: Look, don't try to pass yourself off⁽⁵⁾ as some kind of an intellect at the expense of my friend just to impress these girls.

Will: The sad thing is, in about 50 years you might start doin' some thinkin' on your own, and by then you'll realize there are only two certainties in life.

Clark: Yeah? What're those?

Will: No.

Sean: You're just a boy. You don't have the faintest idea what you're talking about.

Will: Why thank you.

Sean: You've never been out of Boston.

Will: No.

Sean: So if I asked you about art you could give me the skinny on every art book ever written ... Michelangelo? You know a lot about him, I bet. Life's work, criticisms, political aspirations. But you couldn't tell me what it smells like in the Sistine Chapel. You've never stood there

and looked up at that beautiful ceiling. And if I asked you about women, I'm sure you could give me a syllabus of your personal favorites, and maybe you've been laid a few times, too. But you couldn't tell me how it feels to wake up next to a woman and be truly happy. If I asked you about war, you could refer me to a bevy of fictional and

non-fictional material, but you've never been in one. You've never held your best friend's head in your lap and watched him draw his last breath, looking to you for help. And if I asked you about love, I'd get a sonnet, but you've never looked at a woman and been truly vulnerable⁽⁹⁾. Known that someone could kill you with a look. That someone could rescue you from grief. That God had put an angel on Earth just for you. And you wouldn't know how it felt to be her angel. To have the love be there for her forever. Through anything, through cancer. You wouldn't know about sleeping sitting up in a hospital room for two months holding her hand and not leaving because the doctors could see in your eyes that the term "visiting hours" didn't apply to you. And you wouldn't know about real loss, because that only occurs when you lose something you love more than yourself, and you've never dared to love anything that much. I look at you and I don't see an intelligent confident man, I don't see a peer⁽¹⁰⁾, and I don't see my equal.



Will: One, don't do that. Two — you dropped a hundred and fifty grand on an education you coulda' picked up for a dollar-fifty in late charges at the Public Library.

Scene 2

(In an empty park, Will and Sean Maguire, his sixth psychologist, are sitting in the bleachers. It's their second conversation. Will refuses any kind of therapy, but this time, Sean discovers his core problem and starts to open his heart.)

Will: So what's with this place? You have a swan fetish⁽⁶⁾? Is this something you'd like to talk about?

Sean: I was thinking about what you said to me the other day, about my painting. I stayed up⁽⁷⁾ half the night thinking about it and then something occurred to⁽⁸⁾ me, and I fell into a deep peaceful sleep, and haven't thought about you since. You know what occurred to me?



Movie of the Week

By Jackie Zhang

He is an orphan who was abused by his father when he was a child. As he matures, he becomes elusive and secretive. He tries to drive every loving person away trying to protect himself. He is Will Hunting.

Will Hunting is the main character of the movie. Although he hasn't had any education, he is a science genius and an incessant reader. He refuses any psychological therapy but finally befriends Sean Maguire, a psychology teacher at the university. The process of Will ultimately understanding and finding himself becomes the core of this film.

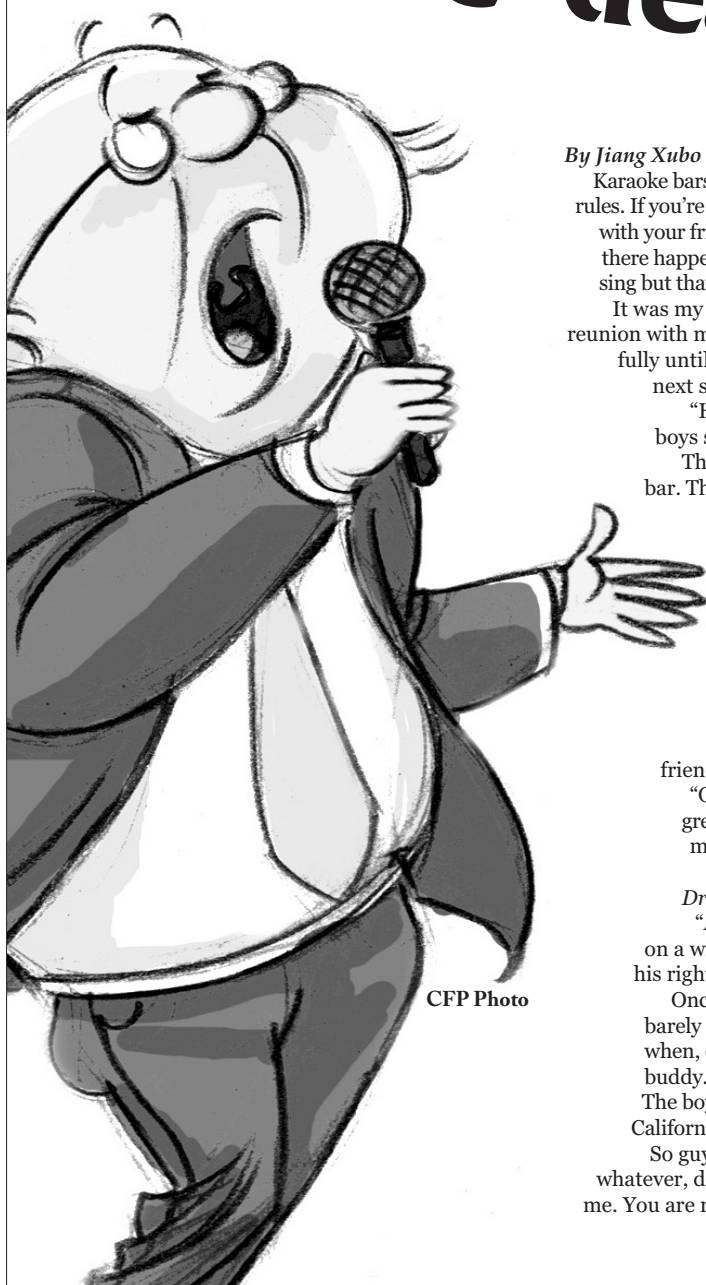
Vocabulary

- 1. Fed-up:** unhappy, frustrated, tired, not satisfied, especially about something uninteresting, annoying.
- 2. Regurgitate:** to bring back (food already swallowed) into the mouth.
- 3. Underestimate:** to have too low an opinion of someone or something.
- 4. Plagerize:** to take (words or ideas) from someone else's works and use them in one's own without admitting one has done so.
- 5. Pass off:** to present falsely
- 6. Fetish:** something to which one pays an unreasonable amount of attention or which one admires to a foolish degree. Or, in psychology, an object whose presence is necessary for sexual satisfaction.
- 7. Stay up:** to continue to be in a particular place, position or state; remain; keep or be kept. Here it means to be awake.
- 8. Occur to:** to come to someone's mind.
- 9. Vulnerable:** easily harmed, hurt or wounded; sensitive.
- 10. Peer:** a person of the same age, class or position as oneself.

Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at gantian@ynet.com.

Turn a deaf ear when the tone-deaf sing



CFP Photo

By Jiang Xubo

Karaoke bars in the capital are always hotspots, especially when the night rules. If you're lucky, you can enjoy some really beautiful songs together with your friends. But, on occasions, your ears may be put to the test, if there happens to be someone in the crowd who claims he or she can't really sing but that doesn't stop him or her from trying anyway.

It was my first Christmas Eve in the capital, and also the first reunion with my old friends since college days. Everything went beautifully until someone made the terrible mistake of suggesting our next social adventure.

"Hey, guys, what about singing in a karaoke bar?" one of the boys said. Too wired to sleep, we just took the ball and ran with it.

The girls started singing immediately once we got inside the bar. The boys called for more beer, of course, and started drinking games. One guy kept losing and getting drunker. He finally snapped and began speaking English.

"Microphone, please!" he staggered up to the girls. Then he paused there, with two microphones in hand, beckoned me forward and leaned on me.

"Ladies and gentlemen, attention, please!" he said, "I know I am no singer."

"You mean you are tone-deaf, sir?" I interrupted him.

"I am not deaf, dude. I just can't sing well," he said.

"That's tone-deaf, sir." I murmured, with amusement, my friends backing me with laughter.

"OK! OK! I am deaf then!" He got sort of angry. "Anyway, it is so great to be here with you. So I am gonna sing this song for you, with my little friend," he turned to me, with a look of reproach.

I shrugged and turned to the screen. The song, *California Dreamin'*, blasted out of the speakers.

"All the leaves are brown ... and the sky is gray ... I went for a walk on a winter's day ..." he led the vocals and sang loudly, keeping time with his right foot.

Once he began to sing, I knew that he had told the truth. You could barely recognize the song he was murdering. It made me even crazier when, every time he paused, he would nudge me and say, "Your turn, buddy." But actually, every time he finished, my part had already passed. The boys began to applaud. And the girls just couldn't stop laughing. *California Dreamin'* turned out to be a California nightmare!

So guys, next time somebody claims he can't sing, or he's tone-deaf or whatever, don't hesitate to, wrestle the microphone from his hands. Trust me. You are not ready for this vocal ordeal!

Blacklist

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch it for each week.

Local professor Zhu Shida**1. Tens of millions yuan**

In such a numerical form, you have to say, "Tens of millions of yuan." Similarly, you have: tens of thousands of people, tens of millions of dollars.

2. A lot people

The mistake here is similar to "a total." The set phrase is "a lot of." So, it must be "a lot of people." Similarly, you must say, "a couple of days," instead of the vulgar, "a couple days," which is used frequently.

3. Get to there by train

You do get to a particular place. However, when you add the adverb, "there," it is not necessary to have the word "to" after the verb "get." The sentence should be, "Get there by train." Similarly, when it is a transitive verb indicating arrival, beginners often err by adding "to" to the verb. For instance, "the mail reaches to its destination." This is wrong and should be, "The mail reaches its destination."

Native speaker Joe Edwards**1. Tens of millions yuan**

In the above numerical phrase, your math may be correct but you're coming up a little short in your prepositional count making the grammatical structure incorrect. You need to add another "of" into the equation giving you, "tens of millions of yuan." And giving you correct grammar. Another good example is, tens of thousands of people. Remember, as The Beatles once sang, "All you need is of."

2. A lot people

This phrase offers up a common mistake. The phrase set in stone is, "a lot of." No exceptions. Don't become prepositionally-challenged. It's not pretty. The above phrase must read, "a lot of people." Similarly,

you will hear people say, "a couple days." Don't fraternize with these people. They are bad people. You must say, "a couple of days," if you want to get invited to the classier cocktail parties.

3. Get to there by train

Yes, it's true, you do get to a place but when you toss in the adverb, "there," you can drop the "to," after the verb, "get," giving us, "get there by train." Another common mistake made by English students is in the area of the transitive verb where "to" is added by mistake. For example, "the mail reaches to its destination." This sentence should read, "the mail reaches its destination," to be correct and get the mail there on time. Again, drop this to, too.

Chinglish on the way

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to gantian@ynet.com together with your name and address.

**No climbing**

By Derrick Sobodash

All your actions have consequences. You have to face the consequences of your actions. Beware the consequences.

Parents pound these words into children's heads from cradle to college. They are especially suitable for when you pop a baseball through the grumpy old man's window or light the neighbor's dog on fire.

And so, they ring a little extreme when used to describe a supervised climbing wall in the park. It's also unfortunate that the sign by the wall's entrance reads "No climbing." Informing foreigners that there is no climbing allowed on the climbing wall is not the best business decision.

"No climbing" is really a perfect rendering of the Chinese, and it adheres to past "Chinglish on the Way" advice. However, in this case, it really could be more specific. Perhaps "No climbing over the rail" or "Do not climb railing" would work, though they are a little longer.

The second part is rife grammatical errors, and amazingly, it's not due to direct translation. English usually follows a similar sentence order to Chinese. In "the consequence who offender by yourself," we have an object then a subject, but no verb in sight. This is one step from object, verb then subject – a sentence order only used in the Panare language of Venezuela and Klingon.

Directly translating the Chinese gets us "Violators the consequences must bear." Here we have subject, object then verb, almost like Japanese. If we flip it around, we can get "Violators must bear the consequences."

Not bad, but still not that accurate.

What are the consequences? Well, more than likely they involve punishment. Since public signs should be as direct as possible, "Violators will be punished" works nicely.

The consequences of not investing in another ten square centimeters of cardboard may have been thousands of lost laowai customers.



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Friday, October 19

Exhibition

Crossing Borders in Image and Space – Leo Musch Solo Exhibition



Leo Musch's painting works are set in wooden or metal boxes with bulbs and dimmers built in. As soon as the dimmer and the lamp are switched on, paintings gradually show different visual effects with the changing lights. Therefore, this gives rise to a three-dimensional artistic form of expression that reflects his views on reality and life.

Where: Art Gallery of Central Fine Arts Academy, Shuaifuyuan Hutong, Dongcheng

When: Daily 9am-4:30pm, until October 21

Admission: 5yuan
Tel: 6527 7991

Illusion – Running Away – Shu Hao Solo Exhibition

Where: Taikang Top Space, 798 Factory, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10am-6pm, until November 10

Admission: Free
Tel: 6438 8443

Denise Keele-bedford Solo Exhibition



Where: Imagine Gallery, 8 Art Studio, Feijiacun Donglu, Cuigezhuang, Laiguangying Donglu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10:30am-5:30pm, until November 14

Admission: Free
Tel: 6438 5747

Outdoor

Guilin, Yangshuo & Dragon Backbone Rice Terraces

Guilin is one of the top ten destinations for both local Chinese and foreigners.

When: Fly to Guilin in the morning on October 25 and return to Beijing by plane on October 28

Cost: 5,900 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (Chinese Culture Club)



Saturday, October 20

Exhibition

Third Front – Chen Jiagang Solo Exhibition



Chen Jiagang was the founder of the first private Museum in China, the Upriver.

Where: Paris-Beijing Photo Gallery, 4 Jiuxianqiao, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10am-6pm, until November 30
Admission: Free
Tel: 84599263

Vacancy, Dreamland and Lost of Memory

Where: 9 Gallery, 2 Jiuxian-

qiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10am-5pm, until November 10
Admission: Free
Tel: 8459 9662, 8459 9663



Beijing Beijing – 2x2 Photography Exhibition

Where: Soka Art Center, B103, Sky & Sea Business Plaza, No 107 Dongsu Bei Dajie, Dongcheng

When: Daily 10am-9pm, until October 31
Admission: Free
Tel: 8401 2377, 8401 5810

Movie

Incense (Xiang Huo)

The tragi-comic storyline is engagingly fresh: a village monk, anxious to repair the broken Buddha in his temple, steadily betrays all his own principles in his quest for the necessary cash. He tries to pass off scraps of timber as historical relics, gets beaten up by racketeers, poses as a fortune-teller and survives, only to face an ironic reversal of fortune.

Where: Cherry Lane Movies, inside Kent Center, Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: 8pm
Admission: 50 yuan
Tel: 139 0113 4745

Sunday, October 21

Exhibition

Original Taste

– **Lei Ziren Solo Exhibition**



Where: New Millennium Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10am-7pm, until November 9

Admission: Free
Tel: 6432 4122

History of Black and Red

– **Sheng Qi Solo Exhibition**
Where: Red Gate Gallery,

Dongbianmen Watchtower, Chongwen

When: 10am-5pm, until November 11

Admission: Free
Tel: 6525 1005

Encounters and Journeys – Singapore Artists' Joint Exhibition



Singaporean artists Chen Wenhsi, Goh Bengkwan and Wong Keen are taking you on a

journey into Singapore arts.

Where: National Art Museum of China, 1 Wusi Dajie, Dongcheng

When: Daily 9am-4pm, until October 21
Admission: 20 yuan
Tel: 6400 6326

Outdoor Pinyao Tour

Pingyao in Shanxi Province is a significant Ming Dynasty walled city, with one of the few walls in China remaining intact and now a UNESCO World Heritage site. The city has a 2,700-year-old history.

When: Take the night train to Pingyao on October 26, and fly back to Beijing on October 28.

Cost: 2,500yuan
Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041

Stage in November

Concert

Andy Lau 2007

Vocal Concert

Who: Andy Lau

Where: Fengtai Sports Center, Fengti Beilu, Fengtai

When: 7:30pm, November 2

Admission: 280-2,680 yuan

Violinist Gidon Kremer Beijing Concert

Who: Gidon Kremer

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Shongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: 7:30pm, November 9

Admission: 120-880 yuan

Solo Concert

by **Boris Berman**

Who: Boris Berman

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: 7:30pm, November 18

Admission: 30-380 yuan

Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra Concert

Who: Chung Myung-whun and Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra Concert

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: 7:30pm, November 20-21

Admission: 50-380 yuan

Dance

China Performance Tour

by **Paul Taylor**

Contemporary Dance Company

Who: Paul Taylor Contemporary Dance Company

Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang

When: 7:30pm, November 16-18

Admission: 180-1,280 yuan

Drama

The Taming of the Shrew

Who: TNT Theater Britain

Where: PKU Centennial Memorial Hall, 116 Zhongguancun Bei Dajie, Haidian

When: 7pm, November 2-3

Admission: 60-200 yuan

Mid-summer

Night's Dream

Who: Directed by Liang Bolong

Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang

When: 7:30pm, November 2-11

Admission: 80-880 yuan

42nd Street

– Broadway Musical



Who: Broadway

Where: Beijing Exhibition Theater, 135 Xizhimen Wai Dajie, Xicheng

When: 7:30pm, November 13-18

Admission: 80-880 yuan

(By Li Jing)